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The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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Important Notice.

Under the new Paper Restriction Order, the supply of papers on sale or return is prohibited. It will therefore be impossible in future for the public to obtain newspapers WITHOUT GIVING DEFINITE ORDERS. Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE are therefore urged TO PLACE AN ORDER WITH THEIR NEWSAGENTS IMMEDIATELY, OR TO APPLY FOR THE COMMON CAUSE TO BE POSTED DIRECT FROM THIS OFFICE.

Notes and News.

Registration Dates.

The registration dates have this week been altered, extending the period in which it is possible for voters, whose names have not appeared on their local registers, to claim to be now registered. The last date for objections to names on the lists is July 18th. The last date for claims to be entered on the lists is July 25th. The last for claims to be registered as an absent voter is August 8th. For full particulars of registration procedure, see this week's leading article.

Women Members of Parliament.

In answer to a question in the House, Mr. Bonar Law stated that a Conference called by the Government is to sit this week to consider the question of the admission of women to Parliament. In the first instance, the matter is purely legal. Are they or are they not eligible as the law now stands? We hope they are, for the sake of simplicity and speed. But it does not greatly matter, for if they are not, an enabling Act is easily passed. We understand that the Labour Party have such a Bill ready, and we do not believe that it would meet with serious opposition. If a constituency wished to return a woman member, how could an obsolete House of Commons refuse to allow it to do so?

Solicitors (Qualification of Women) Bill.

In answer to a question of Mr. Leslie Scott, Mr. Bonar Law stated, on July 15th, that the Government would not give a day for the introduction of this Bill in the House of Commons before the adjournment. The supporters of the Bill in the House number over 200, and it is hoped that an early day may be given in the autumn session for the passing into law of this much-desired reform. The two Bills (for England and Scotland) have both passed the House of Lords this session, and since Parliament is to be adjourned, but not prorogued, in August, it will not be necessary for them to be reconsidered by the Upper House in the same session. If they pass the Commons before Christmas, therefore, women may at once begin preparing to be solicitors. The qualification takes three years for graduates, and five for those without a University degree. We hope, therefore, to welcome our first women solicitors by January, 1922.

The Education Bill.

On the Report Stage of the Education Bill, Mr. Whitehouse again moved an amendment on the subject of the unequal salaries of men and women; the wording of the amendment was that "in making arrangements with respect to the appointment of teachers, a local education authority shall not make or authorise any differentiation as regards salary on the ground of sex." Mr. Fisher said he could not accept the amendment as, if it were carried, it would involve a very large increase in the cost of elementary education, and a large part of the burden would be borne by the local authorities. He added: "My reason for resisting the Clause is that if the State were to come to the conclusion that there should be no differentiation in pay grounded upon sex, it should come to it first of all in reference to its own employees, and not in reference to a great body of servants who are appointed, dismissed, and controlled by other bodies. For that reason, I think it would be improper for the Government to adopt the Clause." In supporting the amendment, Mr. King said: "You are going to demand from them (*i.e.*, from women teachers) the same amount of previous experience and education, you are going to submit them to the same examinations, you are going to give them the same work to do and the same hours of labour, but you are not going to give them the same salary. You cannot ride off by saying that the State does not recognise men and women as having equal pay in other departments. In no other department of national activity is the work so really identical between the two sexes. There is no other department where the actual duties, labours, responsibilities, and work so coincide as in teaching." Sir W. H. Dickinson, also supporting the amendment, said that he would like to see the Board of Education grapple with the whole question and say at once "that in all cases where women's labour is employed, and where the results are equally valuable with those of men, they should receive the same pay." On a division, the amendment was lost by twenty-five voting for and ninety-three against.

The Denaturalisation Bill.

The British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill passed its second reading in the House of Commons on July 12th. The object of the Bill is to give the Home Secretary the power of revoking certificates of naturalisation in cases when the naturalised person has shown himself to be disloyal, or a criminal, or has since his naturalisation resided abroad, and broken off his practical connection with this country. It is provided that when a man is denaturalised for one of these reasons, the Secretary of State may direct that his wife and minor children shall cease to be British subjects, and become aliens, but that if such an order is not made, the wife and children shall retain their British nationality. As Sir W. H. Dickinson pointed out in the debate, the Bill gives the Home Secretary an extraordinary power. He may, at his own will, order that the British wife of a naturalised alien, a British subject, shall lose her nationality or retain it. The wife may be a British-born woman who has married a naturalised British

subject, borne British children, and lived in Great Britain all her life; yet in consequence of the Home Secretary's opinion of some action of her husband's, she may find herself suddenly turned into something quite different—an alien, or a person of no nationality, with no citizenship that she can claim as her own. Sir W. H. Dickinson expressed the hope that when this Clause was considered, the Home Secretary would allow him to move "amendments which would in any case safeguard the British-born woman from being turned, possibly against her will, and possibly with all her children, into a German, Austrian, or Chinese." We hope that the amendments will be moved *and* carried.

When is a Briton not a Briton?

But the hon. Member for North St. Pancras will not be content, and the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies will not be content with protesting against the strange method of treating the wives of denaturalised aliens proposed by this Bill. It is earnestly to be hoped that an opportunity will be given for raising the more general question of whether a woman who marries an alien should or should not lose her nationality against her will. Sir Willoughby Dickinson pointed out in the debate on Friday that up to 1870 the principle of British law, of American law, and of the law of all our Colonies—indeed, of the whole Anglo-Saxon race, was that the nationality to which a woman was born remained hers until death. In 1870 a Committee of experts which "never heard women" recommended that the law should be changed. The recommendation was accepted by Parliament, and British women, like Continental women, became chattels, taking in all cases the nationality of their husbands. American women retained their nationality rights till 1880; Australian women retain theirs to this day. As Sir Willoughby showed, there is no uniformity throughout the Empire, and he was certainly right in saying that women strongly object to the present state of things. He said he had received at least forty-four resolutions on the subject, and that he believed that if the matter were considered by a Select Committee of the House, or by a Joint Committee of both Houses, which would take evidence and hear women, he believed that a very strong case could be made out for allowing women who wished to do so to retain their British nationality on marriage. He was undoubtedly right. Suffragists well know how strong the feeling is among women, and they are grateful to the Member for North St. Pancras for expressing it.

Not Citizens—Only Wives.

The profoundly unreal assumption that a woman is not a separate person, but only a part of her husband, leads like all unreal assumptions to great practical difficulties. A German woman who wishes to acquire British citizenship in order to further anti-British ends, has only to persuade some British man to marry her; no further naturalisation is required. On the other hand, a British woman who has married an alien and lives in some remote part of the world, perhaps in an uncivilised country, loses all the protection of British power. Some people may indeed regard this as a just penalty for a person who is unpatriotic enough to marry a foreigner, but men who do the unpatriotic deed do not suffer for it; why should women? As the hon. Member for North St. Pancras pointed out, there is really no reason why husband and wife should have the same nationality. There are many cases where they do not. Even by the present law it is provided that if an Englishman chooses to change his nationality, his wife need not follow. It is not so inconvenient and absurd for them to have different nationalities as it is for a woman to be deprived of her personality under the assumption that, as she is nothing but a wife, she must have lost all feeling for her mother-land.

The Ministry of Health.

The public demand for a Ministry of Health is growing. Last Saturday a memorial, representative of all classes of the community, was forwarded to the Prime Minister. The Home Secretary has announced that the Committee on Home Affairs will consider the question this week. It is now a long time since Lord Rhondda gave his powerful support to the idea of the Ministry, and all that has happened since has only made the urgency of the need more apparent. It is needed, first, to counteract all the heavy loss of life and health now going on among soldiers, among mothers, and among young children. (It is stated that over 71,000 babies died in England in 1916, and that 40,000 of these died from preventable causes); it is needed to meet the grave dangers that will arise after the war, from the disease spread by disbanding armies and from the general lowering of vitality throughout Europe; it is needed also to adjust the relations between preventive and curative medicine, and to prevent all the overlapping and waste of labour now going on in so many directions to the infinite detriment of the public service. It is to be hoped that the Committee on Home Affairs will consider all this, and that the public will not have to wait much longer for the Ministry of Health.

Protest Against D.O.R.A. 40 D.

A Conference of women's organisations, called together by the Consultative Committee of Women's Societies working for Equal Citizenship (formerly the Consultative Committee of Constitutional Women's Suffrage Societies) met on Friday last to consider the administration of D.O.R.A. 40D. The intention and operation of the regulation were fully considered, and evidence of cases tried under it was heard. A resolution of protest demanding the immediate withdrawal of 40D was laid on the table, and was signed by eighteen societies. This resolution has been forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Minister for War, the members of the War Cabinet, and the clerical members of the War Office Conference on Venereal Disease in relation to the Army. The statement that D.O.R.A. 40D is a dead letter, and, far from being an active menace, is merely an inoffensive collection of phrases, is disproved by the arrests made under it from time to time. One such arrest was made last week at the North London Police Court, where a woman was charged with communicating venereal disease to a Canadian soldier. The evidence against her was the statement of the soldier, and to prove her innocence this woman was obliged to submit to medical examination. The examining doctor gave a certificate (which he supported by evidence in court), stating that the woman was not suffering from venereal disease, and she was therefore discharged as innocent. We would once more register a strong protest against a regulation which makes medical examination for venereal disease compulsory upon women, and against the futility of accepting as evidence requiring such examination one man's word against one woman's.

The Solicitation Laws.

We publish this week an account of a recent case which shows the public danger of the present solicitation laws. The women wrongly accused in this case showed very great courage and public spirit, and they knew where to come for help. But it is possible that there are many other similar cases in which the victims have not so much wisdom and knowledge. It is a matter in which educated women doing public work ought to give what help they can. The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene has formed a rota of such women. Members are asked to attend given courts regularly for a morning or an afternoon, once a week or once a fortnight, in order to observe the conduct of cases under the Solicitation Laws or other laws and regulations concerned with sexual offences, and to report to the Association. More members for the rota are urgently required, and those willing to help should write to Miss Alison Neilens, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, 19, Tothill Street, S.W. 1.

Votes for Women in Hawaii.

Women's Suffrage adds another victory to its list. On June 3rd, the Hawaiian Suffrage Bill passed through the Senate of the United States, authorising the Legislature of the Hawaiian Territory to provide that, in all elections, female citizens, possessing the same qualifications as male citizens, shall be entitled to vote. The energies of American Suffragists being just now concentrated upon gaining the Federal franchise for women, our minds had become distracted from the cause of State and Territory franchises. It is all the more delightful to recognise that the Suffrage cause in America has become self-starting and self-progressive, and will achieve victory even without concentrated support.

Rejection of Teachers' Petition.

It is with the greatest regret that we read in Wednesday's Press of the verdict of the L.C.C. Teaching Staff Sub-committee on the petition submitted to them by women teachers. This petition asked for a recommendation by the Sub-Committee to the L.C.C. itself of equal pay for equal work to men and women in the teaching profession. The Committee's reply is that it cannot consider this recommendation, and that it would be difficult to find any other service where 12,000 women are employed and the average salary is just under £200 a year. Characteristic, but hardly to the point, we consider this reply. There may be a popular theory that it is consoling to be told, when you ask for your brother's cake, of the excellencies of your own bread and butter, but in this case it was justice, not consolation that was wanted.

A LAST WORD ON REGISTRATION.

THIS is the moment for a last word on Registration. The Registration dates have this week been altered once more, and we would therefore bring the following points to your notice.

It is not too late to make your claim to be on the voters' lists which are now hanging in your local post office and church. If you believe yourself qualified to vote, you have presumably filled in your pink registration form, and in consequence rightly expect to find your name on these lists. Make sure at once that it is there, and, if it is not, lodge a claim immediately.

The steps to take are to apply to your local Registration Officer for a claim form, and to fill in your claim to be registered as a voter, giving your exact qualifications. *You are entitled to do this up to July 25th.* Your claim will in the first instance be considered by the local Registration Officer, but if he decides against you, you have still a further right of appeal to the County Court. If you are in any way uncertain of the procedure in claiming your vote, you should apply for information and advice to your local suffrage society or party organisation.

Another date which you should particularly notice is August 8th, the last date for Registration as an Absent Voter. The right of Absent Voting is one which has been little emphasised, and many women unfamiliar with electoral procedure may be unaware that they possess the right at all. If you think it probable that your occupation is likely to prevent you from polling your vote in person in the constituency for which you are registered, you may claim before August 8th to be put upon the Absent Voters' List. You will then, in the event of an election, receive a form enabling you to vote by post, which you will then be obliged to do. This applies to any business occupation whatever, and not only to war service.

Remember, however, that you must not confuse the Absent Voters' vote with the Naval and Military vote.

Any woman engaged on Naval or Military work, or on work officially recognised as being "of National importance" will be automatically placed on the Absent Voters' List if she has filled in her registration form, or if a relative has filled it in for her, in the constituency where she would, if not engaged on war service, have been entitled to register. She will then receive a postal voting form at the time of an election, or if she is serving elsewhere than in Great Britain, France, or Belgium, will receive a form empowering her to name a proxy to poll her vote for her. In short, if you are a Naval or Military voter, you need only make sure—or get a relative to make sure—that your name is on your local register, and if not, claim in the ordinary way before July 25th. You need take no step yourself to register as an absent voter: that will be done for you by the Registration Authorities.

If your voting qualification is for a University vote only, there is no great hurry over Registration dates; for the Universities fix their own dates for claims, and are open to receive these much later than ordinary Registration Offices. You would be wise, however, to make sure of the restrictions applying to your own University, and to see that your name is entered upon the register as soon as possible.

One last word of warning upon the women's Lodger Vote. In parts of London, as well as in the provinces, women, fully qualified to vote as occupants of unfurnished lodgings, have not been entered upon the register. There is no justification whatever for their exclusion. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that any woman renting unfurnished lodgings is eligible if twenty-one, for the Local Government vote, and if thirty, for both the Local Government and Parliamentary votes; and, provided that you can prove that you are a bona-fide lodger, it does not matter whether your lodgings are in your father's house or not.

So, if you have claimed your vote upon a lodger qualification, be sure to see that your name is on the register; and if it is not, be bold—you cannot be too bold—and send in your claim without fail by July 25th.

Sex Differentiation in Teachers' Salaries.

BY GRACE FANNER.

The teaching profession affords one of the clearest examples of differentiation in salary based on sex, for scales of salary are published by Education Authorities and show that, while the custom of differentiation is universal, there is no consensus of opinion as to what the difference of pay between men and women should be. A few scales of salary taken at random from those recently issued will illustrate this point.

A.—TOTAL EARNINGS OF ASSISTANT TEACHERS DURING 40 YEARS' SERVICE.

	Men.	*Women.*	*Difference.*
	£	£	£
Elementary schools, London ...	10,590 ...	8,711 ...	1,879
,, ,, Burnley ...	8,080 ...	6,490 ...	1,590
Secondary schools, London ...	13,625 ...	9,600 ...	4,025
,, ,, Surrey ...	10,800 ...	8,124 ...	2,676

B.—TOTAL EARNINGS OF HEADS OF SCHOOLS DURING 30 YEARS' SERVICE.

	Men.	*Women.*	*Difference.*
	£	£	£
Elementary schools, London (1) ...	14,550 ...	10,937 ...	3,613
,, ,, ,, (2) ...	16,450 ...	12,380 ...	4,070
Secondary ,, ,, (1) ...	16,900 ...	12,675 ...	4,225
,, ,, ,, (2) ...	22,900 ...	16,900 ...	6,000
,, ,, Surrey ...	17,360 ...	10,915 ...	6,445

Such figures give food for thought, and lead us to ask what principle, if any, underlies the framing of these scales. So great has become the dissatisfaction in the profession, and so marked the consequent decrease in the number of those entering it, that two Departmental Committees have recently been appointed to consider the principles which should determine the construction of scales of salary. The report for elementary schools has been published [Cd. 8939], but that for secondary schools is inexplicably delayed, and no answer is given to enquiries as to the probable date of its publication.

The Committee for elementary schools, after taking every kind of evidence available, has publicly pronounced that the work of men and women teachers is not only equal, but is equally well done:—

"Men and women often work side by side in the same schools; if they are relatively seldom in competition for the same posts, their duties are similar if not identical; and we are satisfied that the work of women, taking the schools as a whole, is as arduous as that of men and is not less zealously and efficiently done."

This pronouncement makes a step forward and abolishes the older argument that women are paid less because their work is inferior. Moreover the report goes on to give one of the most concise statements of the case for equal pay that has yet been published, when it summarises the evidence as follows:—

"Those who press for equal payment argue that a distinction based on sex alone is unjust; that a lower salary paid to women tends to keep them in a position of economic dependence, creates antagonism between men and women teachers, and between women teachers and other workers, and tends to restricted attainments, impaired health and early breakdown among women. They further maintain that the practice is contrary to the spirit of the time and that a growing opinion tends in the direction of equal payment for men and women. The advocates for equal payment maintain that salary should be determined by qualifications and the value of the work done."

Clearly the case for equal pay was understood by the Committee, but they pronounce against its acceptance and recommend as follows:—

"If a reasonably good maximum salary is offered to a certificated master, we think that in average circumstances a woman of similar standing should be offered a salary rising to not less than three-quarters of that maximum We must not be interpreted as placing emphasis on the exact proportion we name; we suggest it rather as a convenient starting-point for the examination of the question by individual authorities."

This conclusion, that women are to be paid less, but that the exact proportion does not much matter, coming as it does from a body appointed to advise the whole country on a burning question, is so curious, that the argument on which it is based merits careful consideration. The report summarises the arguments against equal pay under four heads, and bases its own conclusion on the last of these. Briefly put, the arguments of our opponents are these: (1) The fact that women have accepted a lower scale shows that their needs are less. (2) Many women enter the profession with no intention of remaining, regarding it as an interesting and profitable occupation till marriage. (3) Women are physically weaker and more often absent from work. (4) The law of supply and demand determines that men must be paid higher salaries than women.

The first of these arguments is the most dangerous, because

it assumes many forms, and is, indeed, a very hydra among fallacies. It assumes that salaries are based on the needs of the recipients, and it most often appears as a plea for a higher salary for the married man with dependents, with the implication that by supporting a wife and family he has engaged in a harassing and unselfish struggle, while his woman colleague is spending her salary entirely on herself. The whole question of dependents is interesting and has often been dealt with in The Common Cause, but in the consideration of salaries it is beside the mark, unless it is proposed that salaries shall be paid according to the needs and responsibility of the recipients. Such a principle for determining salaries is conceivable and it would be just if it could be carried out, but it has only to be stated to be seen to be impracticable. If it were adopted, the married teacher, doctor, dentist, barrister, and grocer with numerous dependents would be paid according to their number and age, in ascending and descending scale as they become more expensive and then begin to support themselves, and, finally, perhaps, to contribute to the support of their parents. Salaries are not, and never have been, based on such a principle. We do not pay the Prime Minister £10,000 a year because of his dependents, but because of the importance of the work to be done. Similarly, when we engage a barrister or a surgeon, two considerations only weigh with us, the value to us of the work to be done and the qualifications needed to carry it through successfully. Teachers' salaries are a parallel case, and they will be high or low according to the public estimate of the value of education and of the qualifications needed in those who undertake it.

The second and third arguments state that women are less valuable because they leave the profession to be married and because they are physically weaker and more often absent from work. That all women should be paid less because some perform the highest function in the State is unjust and is detrimental to the best interests of the race, for it is a cause of impaired health. That women are *necessarily* weaker in physique has been shown to be untrue by the change in physique which is rapidly taking place now that they are better paid and have greater freedom.

When the Committee recommend unequal pay, they are careful not to base their recommendation on these specious and popular arguments; and they base it on the law of supply and demand in the following words: "The ratepayers and the taxpayers of the country cannot, in our view, with justice be asked to undertake the burden of paying, whether to men or to women, higher salaries than such as are adequate to attract a sufficient number of recruits suitable for the work to be done, to retain them while other careers are still open, and to secure service of the desired quality from those who adopt teaching as their life work."

That the law of supply and demand should determine wages has long been combatted and is contrary to modern ethics, which refuse to regard human labour as a commodity to be bought and sold. The unrestricted action of this law led to sweating and to the abuse of child labour, the grosser forms of which have now been abolished by the State. The law of supply and demand in relation to labour must always be controlled, and in the case of teachers there is every reason to desire that it should be controlled by the State and the local education authorities acting in conjunction, rather than by the organisation of strikes among the teachers.

Meanwhile the growth of public opinion in favour of equal pay—*i.e.*, of payment according to qualifications and the value of the work done—goes forward, and the outlook is in every way promising. Equal pay for men and women teachers has been adopted in Norway, New Zealand, and in some States of America. In New York it has had the striking effect of increasing the maximum pay of men and of increasing the number of men entering the profession. The principle was recently proposed in the Education Comittee of the London County Council, and nine members voted for it, and in the House of Commons Mr. Whitehouse proposed as an amendment to the Education Bill: "That a local education authority shall not make or authorise any differentiation as regards salary on the ground of sex," and this was lost by ninety votes to twenty. We have, therefore, already nine members of the London Education Committee and twenty members of Parliament in our favour, and we are confident of the issue, because the movement for equal justice and for equal opportunity is part of the great movement of history into which we have been born, and such movements are irresistible.

* For a full account of the debate on Mr. Whitehouse's amendment see The Common Cause, July 12th.

Dangers of the Streets.

On June 21st last two women came to the Women's Service Bureau at 58, Victoria Street, to ask advice. They wanted to know the name of some solicitor who would undertake a case for them, as they had taken out a summons against two police officers who had molested them the night before in the streets.

They appeared to be quite respectable people—a Mrs. Robinson, a married woman of middle age, living with her husband, a 'bus-driver, at Blythe Road, Shepherd's Bush—and a younger woman, Mrs. Salmon, who lodges with the Robinsons because her husband is in France.

The women explained to Miss Tucker in the Bureau that when they were walking together the night before in Shepherd's Bush Road they had been molested by police-constables in plain clothes, who charged them with soliciting and disorderly behaviour, and cautioned them as to their conduct. The women thought at first that the two men who interfered with them were impostors, and not police-constables at all; and, after returning home and consulting with Mr. Robinson, who had come in in the meantime, they all proceeded to the Hammersmith Police Station to find if any plain-clothes men had been sent out from there. They were sent from Hammersmith to Starch Green Station, and there they recognised two plain-clothes officers, who had come in, as the men who had interfered with them.

They were told at the police-station to come back on the following day, as it was then after midnight, and see the inspector. This they did; and Inspector Richardson took down their statement. They then applied to a magistrate for a summons, and afterwards came on to 58, Victoria Street, hoping to obtain some advice as to legal assistance, which was given them.

On Saturday, July 6th, the case came on at the West London Police Court, the magistrate being Mr. Boyd. I attended the Court, and watched the proceedings on behalf of the London Society for Women's Suffrage, as the matter appeared to us to be of some importance; also we were particularly struck by the public-spirited and disinterested action of the complainants in taking upon themselves the ungrateful task of making the matter public, at their own expense, "for the sake"—as they said—"of other women."

The case began at two o'clock on Saturday, and lasted through the hot, blazing afternoon till after five. The issue was unsatisfactory enough, but certainly tends to demonstrate that educated women cannot afford to allow these matters to go by default, or permit the administration of justice or the dealing out of injustice to the poorer members of their sex to be left, unobserved and uncommented upon, in the hands of men.

How much of personal liberty is at stake is little realised by the public at large.

The thing that surprised me most, as a somewhat unsophisticated observer in these matters, was the way in which the magistrate bullied and browbeat the unfortunate solicitor for the prosecution. He undoubtedly did his best, and his patience was astounding; but he certainly never had a chance. As the case went on it was clear that the magistrate, while giving the women a perfectly fair hearing, was practically acting as leading counsel for the defence as far as the police officers were concerned. The police solicitor was a man obviously accustomed to the conducting of such a defence, and on the best possible terms with the magistrate.

The women gave their evidence very well and clearly, and it was not shaken in cross-examination. They told how they had been together to visit Mrs. Salmon's mother, who lived in the neighbourhood, and is housekeeper to a local doctor, and were returning home between ten and eleven o'clock along the Shepherd's Bush Road. The two women had been working together at dressmaking during the day, and they were laughing and joking about some question to do with their pay, and Mrs. Robinson, walking on the inner side of the pavement, put her hand on Mrs. Salmon's shoulder. The solicitor for the defendants suggested to the women that Mrs. Robinson, in so doing, had pushed Mrs. Salmon on to a man who was passing. This the police averred had been done twice. The accusation was absolutely denied by both of the women, who were perfectly clear in their evidence, and who declared most positively that nothing of the sort had occurred, and that they had not spoken to any one at all in the Shepherd's Bush Road. The solicitor for the police suggested to them both that, besides this "disorderly behaviour," they had twice or three times stopped and spoken to men for about half a minute.

The women, denying this, complained that their conversation together was interrupted by two police officers in plain clothes, one of whom, P.C. Baker, coming up from behind

them, suddenly took hold roughly of Mrs. Robinson's arm, pushed or dragged her, and said: "I am a police officer; I shall take you to Hammersmith Police Station for soliciting." At the same time the other man, P.C. Dodd, was talking to Mrs. Salmon. He told her he knew her face, and that she had been at the game for two years. He asked where her husband was, and when he heard he was in France, said: "I thought so." (This Dodd denied in the witness-box.) The police officers then said they would "let the women off with cautioning them"; and retiring to the other side of the road proceeded, according to their own account, to take notes of the "case" under a gas-lamp. Twice the solicitor for the accusers asked to be allowed to call witnesses for the character of the women, as persons were in Court for the purpose, but each time the magistrate said he should not allow it, and it was quite unnecessary; it was obvious they were respectable women. The witnesses should, however, one felt, have been called.

The two police-constables in the box made but a poor appearance. They answered questions in a sheepish manner, and, as the magistrate felt, inadequately for their case. He interposed sharply when P.C. Baker said he did not know why Mrs. Robinson spoke to a man. "You don't know how to put your case. Of course, you mean that in the back of your mind all the time you understood that these women were in the street for the purpose of soliciting."

"Yes, your Worship," said P.C. Baker obediently, and P.C. Dodd followed suit, as was expected of him. The police witnesses, who denied having laid hands on either woman, finally declared they had seen them in the street soliciting several times during the last three weeks.

In summing up the case the magistrate pointed out that the constables were on special duty in the street, in plain clothes, to deal with prostitution, and that that gives them power to arrest persons without warrant.

The women, he said, were clearly perfectly respectable people, and left the Court without any sort of imputation upon their characters. The officers had obviously made a mistake—a most regrettable mistake. Both police-constables held very good records in the force, they were clearly acting quite honestly in the matter, and the case against them would be dismissed. Mr. Boyd, be it observed, omitted to take notice of the fact that both men had solemnly sworn that they had seen the two women, whom they had had under close observation for ten minutes or more, solicit several men during that time, and act in a disorderly way.

The whitewash having been thus broadly and indiscriminately applied, all persons left the Court under the sign and seal of the magistrate's approval.

M. Lowndes.

[The account of these somewhat lengthy proceedings is necessarily curtailed. Miss Neilans, of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, has notes of the case taken in Court by a representative of the Association.]

Woman's Village Councils Federations for State-Aided Housing and Rural Problems.

By Mrs. Hamilton.

"Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land."

Readers of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* will remember that when Miss Ophelia asked the bewildered Topsy for an explanation of the fact of her existence, she received for reply, "'Spect I growed." Miss Ophelia herself could not have felt more surprise at natural phenomena than did the members of the first Women's Village Council when they realised that efforts made to obtain the advantages of State-aided Housing for their own village would result in the growth of a woman's rural movement. An account of the formation of the Findon Women's Village Council will be found in The Common Cause of November 9th, 1917. In rapid succession various West Sussex villages followed Findon's example, and on January 1st, 1918, when the movement had spread to other counties, a Federation of Women's Village Councils took place to maintain the form of organisation which had been evolved by the experience of members and confirmed by their voting power, and to gain unity and weight by co-operation, while leaving local developments unhampered. The constitution of a Women's Village Council, therefore, possesses that simplicity which is the heritage of those who live apart from artificial standards, and who will now enjoy the opportunity of fellowship and reap the results of united effort for social improvement. A monthly summary is issued to keep the Women's Village Councils in touch with each other. Class limitations, which in rural districts have operated with deadening effect, marooning village women in an environment of custom and prejudice, will no longer cripple their energies or deny use to their gifts of heart and brain. The evolution of many local schemes has followed the formation of Women's Village Councils with astonishing rapidity. Practical housing surveys, which are finding acceptance with Rural District Councils; food conservation for next winter, registered jam-making associations, dinners for school children, and demands to elementary school authorities for cookery lessons, (any six mothers can now ask for these for their children), and plans of many kinds for village betterment, to say nothing of resolutions to local authorities for the removal of nuisances, unfortunately in some instances disregarded to the danger of child welfare. These schemes, which have emanated from women who nine months ago were helpless, being inarticulate, have been carried out by small Sub-Committees elected for these purposes. The means used to give the members expression have been a simple human interest in all that concerns a good home; the provision of able speakers at monthly meetings, with opportunities for discussion; the circulation of easy literature on Women's Village Council subjects, the will of working-women Presidents, and an earnest desire to learn, as well as teach, on the part of Hon. Secretaries, together with "the faith which creates." Two members of Sub-Committees of the Ministry of Reconstruction are giving their valuable expert assistance on the Federation Advisory Council. The Women's Village Councils in return have been able to supply information for the Government on housing and special war-time conditions, as at present man's health schemes are paralysed through lack of locomotion and contact. The village woman with her twentieth-century brain has to work under almost mediæval disadvantages owing to the withdrawal of many civilised conveniences.

The aims of the Women's Village Councils are as follows:—

1. To assist the State-aided housing scheme of the Local Government Board by obtaining first-hand information on rural housing with the present acute shortage of cottages and bad conditions; to promote maternity and infant welfare, and the cause of education.

2. To enable working women to educate themselves to take their place on Parish, Rural, District, and County Councils.

These aims may be briefly summarised thus:—

"The right child, in the right home, receiving the right education.

"Local authority, strengthened by village women, placed there by Women's Village Council members who have learnt both the power and the right use of their votes."

On the formation of a Council the following resolution is sent to the Local Government Board and copies to the County, Rural District, and Parish Councils:—

"To the Secretary, Local Government Board,
"Whitehall, S.W. 1.

"We have pleasure in reporting to the Local Government Board that the —— Women's Village Council (for the purpose of collecting evidence for the State-aided Housing Scheme) has been formed by general notice, and we beg that we may be recognised as representing working women in ——, and we ask that we may be consulted in all reforms and schemes connected with State-aided cottages in our village."

The claim is made on behalf of the progressive action now to be found in all communities, and its simple appeal to common sense justifies its apparent audacity.

The causes which have made for the sudden emancipation of village women are twofold. Foremost is the liberating economic fact of war separation allowances, freeing their recipients from dread of loss of employment through caste

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objections; secondly, there is representation. Last autumn, although the Reform Bill had not yet passed, the shadow of this coming event was cast over the countryside, where previously even to speak of a vote in connection with a woman had been an indiscretion. Tradition, sex prejudice, and the fear of rigid class resentment gave way before the urgent inner call for expression and power to translate into words and deeds some of the burning desires for social reform, the need of which the sufferings of war had made clear.

"A parcel of women! What do they think they will do?" was a comment on the first Women's Village Council. From the trenches came encouragement. A young R.E. corporal wrote:—

"I feel I must write to tell you how much I, and other Tommies with whom I have discussed the scheme, appreciate the work you are doing. It is comforting out here to feel that there are those at home who are doing what they can to better home life, which is going to be so much to us after the war."

Alas for many of these men there are no homes ready or even planned, so acute is the housing shortage.

The immediate work of Women's Village Councils is to demonstrate beyond doubt the tremendous need for State-aided housing and the almost inconceivably bad conditions of many agricultural labourers' homes; to combat existing opposition and indifference; to suggest the possibility that garden villages need not be "blots on the landscape"; to tell of the marvels promised by constructive use of science for lighting, water supplies, warmth, and cooking, and to do to death the legend that the only use likely to be made of the fixed bath would be as the coal cellar. All Women's Village Councils are asking for third bedrooms, that boys and girls may have a chance of growing up with modesty; they also ask for parlours. The first Federation County Council is in formation; its members will be hon. secretaries and co-opted experts. The success of the Local Government's Maternity Bill and the Continuation Classes of the new Education Act depends largely on the co-operation of village women, who have hitherto had small say in their children's interests and education. The habit of thrift and the common sense taught by unselfish work with limited means, and an expert knowledge of needs, may do much to improve and vitalise rural local authority when Women's Village Councils are represented on it. The volume of correspondence shows that it is the new-comer in a country district who realises the bad conditions, accepted as normal by older residents who attribute them all to the apathy of tenants. The Women's Village Councils are proof to the contrary; everywhere the women are to be found waiting for leadership by women of experience and courage. The demand for such is unlimited if the possibilities of this most modern movement are to be fulfilled. A Cornish Women's Village Council gives it as their considered opinion on the cost of living that to-day 25s. represents the spending power of 10s. in pre-war days; the necessity for developing all possible resources is obvious. The Federation needs funds for extension, for printing, for propaganda, stationery, and increased fares and postage. The Women's Village Councils are each responsible for their own social and financial management. Working women value their independence and are endeavouring to maintain it by making money in different small ways, such as rummage sales, etc. The success achieved during the last nine months is due entirely to the splendid voluntary efforts of busy people. The Women's Village Councils are built on the vote, and they have been honoured from the outset with the approval of our leader, Mrs. Fawcett. Undenominational, democratic, and non-party, the work makes a wide appeal for interest and service to those women by whose labours the vote was won.

Domestic Service, or the Domestic Profession?

By Mrs. C. S. Peel.

Enquiry shows that there are at the present time many women greatly inconvenienced by the shortage of domestic labour, who are bearing their discomforts in the hope that they will not be of long duration, and that with the coming of peace thousands of other women will be forced into employment which they dislike, by the stern necessity of earning their bread!

"After the war," says the would-be employer, "girls who have taken up War work will be obliged to come back into service." Is it possible that such a state of affairs would create good feeling between employer and employed? that it would better in any way the conditions of our domestic life?

It is, indeed, time that educated, intelligent women should endeavour to find a better solution of the servant problem than this.

Some years ago I published an article on this subject which provoked a large correspondence, and that correspondence led me to make careful enquiry into the conditions of the domestic labour market. Later, the Women's Industrial Council made similar investigations, and comparing their report published in 1916 with my own notes, I find that our conclusions practically coincide. Stated briefly they are as follows:—

1. That domestic service is, and was before the war, a dying industry.

2. That there is a widely expressed determination on the part of young girls about to leave school not to go into service, and of girls who have left service to take up war work not to go back to service unless driven to do so by lack of other employment.

3. That in the opinion of working class girls the chief objections to service as a profession are: (a) the inferior social status of the servant; (b) the "living-in" system, which denies to her the regular hours of work and freedom enjoyed by girls in other occupations.

If the servant is dissatisfied, the mistress appears to be no better pleased. She complains, sometimes it must be admitted with truth, that the greater number of servants are inefficient, extravagant, and unreliable.

To my certain knowledge this mutual dissatisfaction existed twenty-five years ago, and has been growing rapidly, yet when books such as Miss Clementina Black's admirable *New Way of Housekeeping* and my own *Labour-Saving House* are published, or a scheme such as that of the Women's Industrial Council for organising a corps of uniformed domestic out-workers is put forward, when it is suggested, even, that the institution on a large scale of National Kitchens would help to solve the domestic problem, a storm of adverse criticism is the result.

Would-be reformers are accused of endeavouring to tamper with the sacredness of family life, of sowing discord between mistress and servant! Fortunately, the sacredness of family life does not depend upon whether a joint is roasted in a National Kitchen or in the kitchen of those who will eat it.

The truth is that, when women of the educated class first found it possible to go out into the world and earn their own living, they were so exhilarated by freedom from an overwhelming domesticity that they ceased to accord to the work of home-making the intelligent thought and respect which it should receive. The result of this blindness to the national importance of domesticity, added to a senseless opposition to progress on the part of unthinking women, is that what should be one of the most interesting and dignified professions has become nothing more nor less than a despised form of drudgery.

Had we given more study to the best methods of house planning, of labour saving, of scientific food preparation, and had the woman employer been more willing to look at life from the point of view of the woman worker rather always than from that of her own, we might have improved the standard of life, and there might never have been a servant problem, but merely to-day a temporary shortage of domestic labour brought about by war conditions; and, further, women would not have laid themselves open to the reproach that an industry in which women employ other women should be in such an unsatisfactory condition—the Cinderella, in fact, of all industries.

But because we have made mistakes in the past, that is no reason why we should continue to make them. Having realised that working girls do dislike domestic service, and why they dislike it, our next task is to discover: (1) on what conditions they would be willing again to become domestic workers; (2) how far these conditions are reasonable; and (3) in what way they may be created.

Let us consider for a moment the first grievance of the worker, that regarding the loss of social status. I have discussed this point with many women, and find they are apt to treat it with a lack of understanding, and therefore of sympathy. The employer says: "We all respect good servants." That is true to some extent of the best class of employer; but the employer of any class is only a small part of the servant's world, and by no means the most important. It is her friends, her acquaintances, the young men amongst whom she hopes ultimately to find her husband, who really matter to her, and amongst them there does exist this despisal of the servant. Business girls, industrial workers, and the professional girl are on a different plane from the servant—she

is in a class apart. Well-to-do servants who wish to spend a holiday in a boarding-house find themselves obliged to conceal the fact that they are servants, or they would not be received. Young men who take off their hats to "young ladies" refuse that courtesy to servants. A girl who is in business is eligible to become a member of certain clubs, her sister in service is not. It is foolish, therefore, to refuse to admit that social status is of importance. The desire to better the social status is deeply rooted, it is part of the great struggle of humanity to improve the conditions of its existence, for unless humanity did cling consciously or sub-consciously to that desire no progress would be made. Again, sex instinct is touched by this loss of social status. If a girl finds that as a member of one profession rather than another she is likely to have a chance of meeting and eventually marrying the kind of man she desires to marry, it is only natural that this fact should weigh with her when choosing how she would earn a livelihood.

If addressing the domestic worker as Miss Jones rather than as Mary, and discarding the disliked cap and apron and substituting for it a working dress connected with the new Miss Jones instead of the old Mary, will help to raise the status of the servant, I own I see no reason to resent what would merely be a change of custom.

If we would transform domestic service into domestic industry, there must be changes. We must combat the mischievous idea that domestic work is degrading and discourage the verbal depreciation of servants which has become a habit; how often does one hear the words, "But you know what servants are!" The Press, too, might well alter its tone: articles written in facetious fashion alliteratively entitled: "Mary Jane becomes the Mistress!" "Slaveys in Society!" "The Marchioness her own Maid!" arouse resentment.

We are beginning to realise to-day the part which propaganda—otherwise mental suggestion—must play in all causes. So far, unfortunately, Press and Public alike have combined to create the wrong rather than the right ideal of domestic service.

Consideration must also be given to the second complaint of the domestic worker, that which regards fixed hours of work and freedom, for unless her demand for new conditions in this respect is granted service will ultimately become merely a refuge—and an uncomfortable one at that—for women so incapable and undesirable as to debar them from securing other employment.

Instead of bewailing the miscalled "good old days" when, as Miss Black observes, "many wives and mothers were visibly more harassed and exhausted by running an eight-roomed house and catering for a moderate-sized family than other women by the headship of a great school, the conduct of a responsible medical practice, or the control of some complicated business department," let us give our minds to preparing schemes of life which will ensure for the worker the fixed hours and conditions she demands, and bring content to employer and employed alike.

Federated housekeeping, National Kitchens, nursery schools and crêches, labour-saving houses, organised corps of outworkers, all might play their part, bringing about the desired reforms in elevating domestic service to the rank of a skilled, honoured, well-paid profession, and at the same time enabling the middle-class family to enjoy cleanliness, comfort, well-cooked food, and leisure, in return for such a price as they can afford to pay.

Slavery.

BY STELLA BENSON.

Slavery seems to be an attractive profession; nearly everybody follows it. I can well understand the fascination of certain forms of it. I am myself, for instance, the delighted slave of my dog. I am as wax in his paws; indeed, his paw-prints on my dress I flaunt as honourable scars. His lightest squeak is law to me. If a capricious fate decrees that my week's meat coupons should lure from the butcher nothing more succulent than a bullock's horn or the jawbone of an ass, I rejoice hungrily, because my dog is pleased. This is glorious slavery. I remember also, during my lonely childhood, finding that bullfinches and goldfish made adequate and not unkindly taskmasters. I lived for months at the beck and call of a green Spanish lizard with blue spots. There was a particular kind of worm that he loved. It lived—rather wisely—at a great depth, but I counted my lizard's green, proud smile reward enough for any effort.

Then again—though here I am on less familiar ground—I understand that there are advantages in being the slave of a husband or a baby. And I know and respect several otherwise normal people who grovel cheerfully in acute physical discomfort daily at the feet of a herbaceous border. All these forms of slavery are pleasing and even touching, showing the quest of garrulous man for the Absolutely Silent Friend.

But there is a limit to sympathy. There is a point, I consider, at which the instinct for slavery becomes a mania. I simply cannot understand the people who are slaves to their houses. I know a person who has a house which she loathes filled with furniture which she does not love. She does not admire her possessions, but she says they have seen her grow old. Really it is a form of blackmail. She ministers to them as though they were boarders; the only difference between them and paying guests is that they do not pay. Almost one hears her, as she takes her piano its morning cup of tea, asking it whether it feels the draught, and whether it would like a fire lighted to-day. Generally, one gathers, it says "Yes, it would like a good fire kept up"; so she lights one, and retires for coolness to the kitchen. She does not play the piano. Directly one enters her house one notices its insolent expression. Her chairs and tables have forgotten that they were born slaves. About a goldfish's right to mastery, or a lizard's, there may be two opinions, but these creatures could at least claim to exist for their own convenience rather than man's. Indeed, the goldfish might reasonably argue that if Noah had not thought of the Ark the scaly race might be predominant to-day. But a chair is man's creature; its very attitude is both silly and slavish. A table is a subjective thing devised by master man as a place of safety for those of his possessions not meant to be sat upon. A carpet is entitled to no reverence; it is meant to be trodden on, even—as some think—to be used as a major ash-tray, and then to be beaten severely in order to keep it in its place.

She of few possessions knows her advantage, and rules those few with a sort of intimate mastery. She could teach her better-provided sister the secret of a benevolent autocracy. She knows her possessions by name, and when she comes home they rise up respectfully out of the welter of landlady's impedimenta to greet her.

Personally, I hate possessions; even, so to speak, the ones I love. If by mistake I find that I am getting the Nucleus of a Home together, I try at once to disperse it. I always avoid millionaires, having an insane fear that I might be tempted to do them some act of kindness, and, by their subsequent wills, find myself burdened with untold possessions of which nobody would be rich enough to relieve me.

Dwellers alone are divided into two camps. There are those who choose this life because they want "their own bits of things around them," and those who choose it because they don't. She who lives in lodgings must part company with the desire of her eyes; she must wander among aspidistras and Presents from Eastbourne, and glazed kittens erupting out of boots, and the pictures of Mr. ——, whose inspiration dwells in the society of overfed and patrician babies dressed for a perpetual party. All that she loses the dweller in lodgings counts well lost for the cause of freedom from the curse of property.

I seem to confine my remarks to women, but I cannot pretend to much familiarity with the habits of the sort of man that lives alone. I believe that men are not so long suffering as women in these matters, and that they succumb more easily under the pressure of honest ugliness. I can well imagine an untender man lodger commanding his astonished landlady to remove at once the wool hearthrug bought by her with some trouble "to brighten up the place for him." My vague impression, gathered, I think, from Leech and the fiction of the last century, is that men lodgers spend inverted lives with their feet on the mantelpiece. This in itself is an impertinence to the marble clock—which never goes—and the china fisher lass known to all lodgers; and shows that men, as a sex, lack that dreadful and hypnotised reverence felt by women for ugly things not their own. There is a ubiquitous china pig, with or without a top-hat, and glued to a vase, on every lodging mantelpiece, which every lodger has had the misfortune to use as an ash-tray, knock down, and break into small pieces. The destroyer's first feeling is probably like Charlotte Corday's, a consciousness of having rid the world of an obstruction. But even Marat was somebody's darling, and Charlotte, I suggest, felt rather small when confronted afterwards with that possessing somebody. Even so feels the pig-breaker before the landlady—the pig's only admirer. Indeed, I have never broken a pig without finding that it was the landlady's aunt's last present to her daughter before her death, and as such an indispensable asset to the home.

But those blessed with the craving for improvidence can never hate their landlady's possessions as much as they hate their own. A china pig with a top-hat may not be æsthetically flawless, but it has this virtue—you can give it a week's notice,

and leave it behind. It is a mystery to me what strange bond makes it so impossible, even to a determined destitute, either to break her goods, throw them away, or leave them behind. From afar off I find it easy to think bitterly of my little trunk, which contains everything I have. I remember it with grinding teeth; it seems like a weight upon my freedom. At such moments I think that I could cheerfully burn the house down—the landlady's house, full as it is of sentimental china pigs—to get rid of my little trunk. Charles Lamb records a race of heroes who burnt their houses to roast their pork, but I would go a step further, and burn house and pigs to find liberty. But, alas! I am weak; also, in these days, I have no matches. I run home, intending to give everything to a Mission to the Heathen. But directly I look into the trustful eyes of my little trunk, directly I call the roll-call of the little band of adventurous possessions which have followed me in my wanderings—Geraldine the ash-tray, Cornelia the brass dog, Alfred the unopened bottle of cod-liver oil that my mother gave me long ago—I am lost, I can spare nothing. No heathen is ever one hair-ribbon the richer by my impulse. No merciful bomb ever falls upon my little trunk. It haunts me; if I run away, it follows me. Fidelity can be a tactless virtue.

Slavery is slavery, even if the slave is fugitive; and there is no real escaping from the net of possession.

Some Victorians and an Iconoclast.

Eminent Victorians. By Lytton Strachey. (Published by Chatto and Windus. Price 10s. 6d. net.)

It is not often given to a book which is not a novel by a popular author to meet with the kind of reception that has been accorded to "Eminent Victorians." Mr. Strachey is not Miss Marie Corelli—far from it; he does not write about the war, nor about spiritualism, nor about the German Secret Service, nor even about Pelmanism or Psycho-analysis; yet the printers and binders have found it hard to keep pace with the demand for his book; the reviewers have vied with each other in praising it, a great London daily has (in spite of the paper shortage) devoted a leading article to it, and an ex-Prime Minister has referred to it in a public oration to the Senior University of the realm. These facts—except the last—are all the more remarkable because the author is a scholar and a subtle thinker, who has not published any large bulk of work and who has too great a regard for literary form for it to be expected that he would make a popular appeal. They are, perhaps, an indication that the British public does not really mind literary form, provided that it is not used (as it appears to be by some of our most intellectual writers) to conceal rather than to express thought. The author of "Eminent Victorians" has a shining wit, and he expresses himself in language which is at once so clear and so subtle, so compressed and so harmonious, so full of colour and so finished in form, that it gives one the kind of pleasure that is not often experienced except in reading French.

Mr. Strachey's method is to take four remarkable characters from the period with which he deals and to focus vistas of history and psychology in the story of their lives. There can be no doubt of the literary success of the method (though it is one that it would be dangerous to imitate), the effect is extraordinarily dramatic, and Mr. Strachey does it all without disturbing the even flow of his narrative, or the matchless lucidity of his style. The doubt that does remain in the mind of the candid reader is not about the effectiveness but about the reality of these brilliant pictures. "Eminent Victorians" disturbs and stimulates the imagination: are the impressions that it leaves with us about Cardinal Manning, Florence Nightingale, Dr. Arnold, and General Gordon nearer to the truth than those we have hitherto held? To this question there is of course no certain answer; different people will answer it differently, and the same person will answer it differently about the different persons concerned. Cardinal Manning, in spite of the veneration which gathered about him in his old age, and which was stimulated among his younger contemporaries by his passionate interest in social questions, has never been regarded by many people as a saint. Gladstone is supposed to have said of Purcell's "Life of Manning" that it "left nothing for the Day of Judgment," and even those who have suspected that Purcell (not to mention later writers), showed some animus, must have been shaken by the celebrated letter in which Newman began by telling his former friend that he could see no relation between his words and his actions, and ended by promising to offer Masses for him. His other great contemporary and former friend, Gladstone, implicitly and directly expressed the same opinion about his expressions of friendship and his need for special intercession. Such testimony is heavy in the balance, and for those who have read these letters, Mr. Strachey's luminous account of the relation between Newman and Manning and the Roman Curia will hardly destroy an illusion.

In the case of Florence Nightingale too, Mr. Strachey does little more than attack a sentimental vision which had already lost its power with a post-Victorian public. He does full justice to the almost superhuman qualities of this amazing woman, and her present admirers will not mind the final destruction of the "Lady with the Lamp" image, though they may think that the passage about the "tiger in the jungle" is more picturesque than just, and that there is a certain inhumanity and perversity in regarding the softening of old age as nothing but senile decay.

The essay on Dr. Arnold is less satisfactory. Is it quite evident that the author of "Eminent Victorians" hates the British public school system, with all its works and ways, and cannot forgive Dr. Arnold for his share in it. His feeling is embittered by his conception of what Arnold might have done.

> "Was he to improve the character of his pupils by gradually spreading round them an atmosphere of cultivation and intelligence? By bringing them into close and friendly contact with civilised men, and even, perhaps, with civilised women? By introducing into the life of his school all that he could of the humane, enlightened, and progressive elements in the life of the community? On the whole, he thought not."

Arnold certainly did not succeed in achieving the civilisation which seems to many moderns to be the supreme good, but the picture of what he did accomplish, given in this book, is, we think, unconvincing, and the portrait of the man himself leaves us doubting whether any such person ever did, or ever could, exist.

The last essay is in many ways the most brilliant of all. General Gordon's life, as narrated by Mr. Strachey, is like a story from the Arabian Nights. The astonishing contrasts in this strange career, the conflict between Gordon's will and ideals and Gladstone's, the curious part played in that conflict by the late Lord Cromer, the wonderful incidents and scenes of the General's last tragic months, all give full scope to the biographer's genius. The story leaves us dazzled and a little sceptical. Gordon is portrayed as rather less of a hero than we had always believed him to be. But if you take away the heroism from Gordon, something a little vague and uncertain remains. Has not Mr. Strachey, in his anxiety not to have too much heroism and yet to make the figure lifelike, filled it in with some vivid colouring of his own?

The fact is that if we begin by thinking of the author of "Eminent Victorians" as a cool and detached observer, we end by wondering whether he is not, after all, as he describes Newman, "of imagination all compact." He is an iconoclast, who does not pull idols crashing from their pedestals, but holds a light very close to them, saying, "See, here, your graven image is of clay; here it is of brass; here is something which may be gold but it is difficult to discern, it is so deeply imbedded in other substances, it may be pinchbeck after all: here is a beautiful bit of marble, here some darker substance; here a strange light shines, through; can it be?—but that is for you, the worshipper, to decide." It is possible that the worshipper will reply: "Your torch is brilliant, but it dazzles me, and I am not sure that it is quite uncoloured; my own altar candles give a steadier flame."

To the present reviewer the most attractive parts of the book are those in which the author uses his penetrating imagination for the purpose of sympathy, rather than destruction. It has already been indicated that while the intellectual and imaginative torch is mainly used to illuminate the idols, its bright coloured beams do occasionally fall on other figures of greater stature that loom beside them; Gladstone overshadows Gordon and Newman and Manning. Mr. Strachey's brilliant description of Gladstone leaves him as it found him, the most perplexing as well as the most eminent of Victorians; but the following passage throws a flood of light on one of the most mysterious incidents in his career, the failure—as it seemed to many of his contemporaries the deliberate failure—to relieve Gordon in Khartoum.

> "Others might picture the triumphant rescue of a Christian hero from the clutches of heathen savages; before *his* eyes was the vision of battle and victory, the slaughter and the anguish of thousands, the violence of military domination, the enslavement of a people. The invasion of the Sudan, he had flashed out in the House of Commons, would be a war of conquest against a people struggling to be free. 'Yes, those people are struggling to be free, and they are rightly struggling to be free.' Mr. Gladstone—it was one of his old-fashioned simplicities—believed in liberty."

Here the light is no destructive beam. And the same may be said of the whole description of Newman. The passage in which he is first introduced gives full scope to Mr. Strachey's verbal art, and must be quoted here :—

"He was a child of the Romantic Revival, a creature of emotion and of memory, a dreamer, whose secret spirit dwelt apart in delectable mountains, an artist whose subtle senses caught like a shower in the sunshine, the impalpable rainbow of the immaterial world. In other times, under other skies, his days would have been more fortunate. He might have helped to weave the garland of Meleager, or to mix the *lapis lazuli* of Fra Angelico, or to chase the delicate truth in the shade of an Athenian *palæstra*, or his hands might have fashioned those ethereal faces that smile in the niches of Chartres."

But this is far from being the best thing about Newman in the book. The account of him cannot be called either sceptical or dispassionate, and for the sake of it one cannot help thinking that many an idol-worshipper will forgive the iconoclast.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

Reviews.

The Hour and the Church. By A. Maude Royden. (Geo. Allan & Unwin Ltd., 40, Museum Street, W.C. 1. 2s. net.)

This is a lay person's book, though it also speaks of and to the clergy, telling them with strong insistence that the time for revolution within the Church has come and is passing. The book should be read by those, within and without the Establishment, who are "incurably religious," and of such Miss Royden says, "there are hundreds of thousands who are neither theologians nor priests—ordinary people living in the world."

Miss Royden has three leading thoughts about what Church people should be like. She thinks they should have (*a*) a just sense of proportion in theological and ecclesiastical things, seeing what is great as great, and what is small as small; (*b*) a scientific temper of mind; (*c*) a right attitude towards orthodoxy. Miss Royden holds that the Church of England can lead the way towards creating a united National Church by cultivating a sense of proportion in a spirit of love: not by discussing unity, but by uniting in actual fact on big issues. "It is difficult," she says, "to put into words the joyful sense of fellowship found [in groups which have so united]. No one who belongs to such a group or movement will believe that in thus meeting and working with Christians of all denominations they are on the wrong lines. The experience they have been through together defies argument—or rather, it is itself an argument which cannot be refuted. We *know* the things we have in common are greater than the things we have apart. The things we have apart are no less true and dear than before: only they do not hold the first place any more. We give this to devotion to our Lord."

This line of argument is closely linked up with Miss Royden's other two points—the scientific mind and a right orthodoxy. "The theologian, like the scientist, can never rest content. He must continually press on." And again: "One's attitude of mind, it seems, may be theologically but not scientifically honest. 'How many a beautiful theory have I seen,' said Lord Kelvin, 'wrecked upon the rock of a single impertinent fact!' Such is the scientist's honesty. His theory may be the result of a lifetime's observation and labour. It fails to account for a single impertinent fact! So much the worse for the theory. But Catholic theology, majestic, complete, is unable to account for the fact of sanctity outside the Church. So much the worst for the fact." In this connection, Miss Royden makes an urgent appeal to the Modernist, to the liberal priest. "It is just because I believe Christ when He tells us that the truth will make us free, that the 'economy' practised by the Modernist horrifies me." She holds that the "weaker brethren" will be strengthened if they speak what they know. The third foundation-stone of Miss Royden's New Jerusalem is a right attitude towards orthodoxy, and here again her view of what *is* a right attitude is indissolubly bound up with her views about the kind of thing the National Church should be. She writes: "It is clear that orthodoxy is dynamic and not static. It is a tremendous adventure, a continual effort of the mind. . . . It matters profoundly that we be orthodox, that we think rightly of God. But such right thinking is *not a test imposed upon the sinner; it is the supreme achievement of the saint.*" We have italicised these few words, because they mark the line of cleavage between Miss Royden and her critics, who are firmly convinced that she knows nothing and cares less for orthodoxy, at least as they understand it. "The Hour and the Church" will arouse a storm of just and unjust criticism, but it will outlive all this, and go straight to the honest minds and warm hearts for whom it is meant, who are, many of them, looking for such a message. Those who have followed Miss Royden's work since her appointment as preacher at the City Temple will be aware that much that is laid down in the book is already being carried out in practice.

A. H. W.

Obituary.

Mrs. Bateson, of Cambridge, has just passed away at the great age of eighty-nine. Those who remember her at Cambridge in the 'sixties and 'seventies will have difficulty in realising that she ever grew old, and still more difficulty in facing the fact that her flame-like spirit is no longer a source of light and warmth in this world. She was one of the real pioneers of the women's movement, standing in those early days for equality of opportunity for women in education and in political freedom, and also in respect to an equal moral standard. The contrast she presented to the generality of Cambridge women, especially among the wives of Heads of Colleges, can hardly be measured by the present generation. The Heads of Colleges in those days lived in a sort of Olympian grandeur, apart from the rest of the University; their wives, for the most part, emulated their husbands' aristocratic seclusion. But St. John's Lodge knew nothing of this, and all the most forward move-

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He has done the fighting
He has risked the dying
And now he will starve
Unless we keep him alive

IT is not a case of extra comforts, but of sheer necessaries, which he can only get if we who are safe—thanks to his courage—deny ourselves on his behalf.

HE GIVES TWICE WHO GIVES QUICKLY, AND THE NEED IS URGENT: SO PLEASE SEND A DONATION AT ONCE TO THE FOUNDER:—

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ments for women had an ardent missionary in Mrs. Bateson, aided by the trained political sagacity of her husband, the Master. We are thankful to know how much of her work Mrs. Bateson lived to see completed: the barriers in the way of women's University education completely broken down; her own daughter, Mary, recognised as among the leaders of Historical study; and, finally, the political emancipation of women by the passing of the Representation of the People Act last February.

M. G. F.

Correspondence.

PROGRAMME OF THE NATIONAL UNION AND WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Madam,—So much has appeared in your correspondence about *one* of the "methods" of work—the formation of Women Citizens' Associations—adopted by the last meeting of the National Union Council, that there seems to be a danger of overlooking the fact that these associations are a "*method*" or *Means* for the attainment of our "*objects*" or *End*.

Our objects may be shortly expressed as the attainment for women of equal suffrage; social, political and economic equality; and a full sense of political responsibility. If in the first instance Citizens' Associations will no doubt most directly foster a full sense of political responsibility, it would be a denial of our faith, namely, that the equality programme is the only just solution of the relative positions of men and women in the State, not to realise that these Associations are, at the same time, a means towards the establishment of that just solution. Our National Union has always, and rightly, been open to men as well as to women. We have never lacked men who saw the vision as clearly as any woman. But it is a commonplace that our most numerous converts and active workers have always been women. So it is, and must be, in our equality propaganda. These Citizens' Associations are to help women to find themselves, to be themselves. Surely there is not any suffragist who will deny that the personality of woman is but half developed if she has not come sufficiently alive to wish to see established our full equality programme.

But it is not only the woman in the Citizen Association whom we have to convert; it is also the ordinary woman, the man in the street, the politician, the political parties and, above all, the candidates at the next General Election.

The Preamble of our new Constitution sets out that we are "affiliated into one union, in order to take *united action in Parliament and elsewhere in support of the objects of our Union*," and a new rule thus defines our programme:—

> "The Council shall from time to time determine which of the *reforms necessary to its objects* shall be placed upon the *immediate programme* of the Union."

What have the societies done to make sure that the party organisations and the candidates in their constituencies are made clearly aware of the National Union Programme? Let each member of the National Union ask herself: Do the party organisations and the Parliamentary candidates in my constituency know that the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is asking on its immediate programme for equal guardianship laws; better machinery for enforcing maintenance orders; the treating of the incomes of married persons as separate for income-tax purposes; the right for a British woman to retain her nationality on marrying a foreigner; pensions for widows with children; the opening of the professions of barristers and solicitors to women; the enabling of women to become M.P.s; the admission of women to the jury, to the police service, to the magistrates' bench; the abolition of the solicitation laws; the presence of women as British representatives at the Congress of the Powers after the war; and the affirmation by our Government there of the desirability of women's suffrage in all democratic countries?

I had occasion to write the other day for a number of voters in one of the constituencies in which I have a vote to a party organisation putting forward our joint views, and am glad to have received an answer to the effect "that every member of the committee whom I have been able to consult agrees that our candidates must explicitly stand for the equality, political and economic, of men and women." This will have to be followed up, but is a good beginning so far as it goes.

It is said that the method of ascertaining the trend of public opinion adopted by one of our Ministers is to have the letters he receives from private individuals arranged and their opinions analysed. There is no fundamental difference between Ministers and party organisations or candidates in this respect!

Chrystal Macmillan.

HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR NAME ON THE PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER?

Madam,—I write to give my own experience to show how important it is that every woman should go herself, or send some other responsible person, to see that her name has actually been entered on the Register.

My name was duly entered as an unfurnished lodger on the official pink form sent round to householders. When I went to examine the Register I found that, whereas the name of the householder who had been entered on the same pink form *was* on the Register, my name *was not*. I have, of course, filled up the two claim forms necessary to place me on the Parliamentary and on the Local Government Register.

As I would have found considerable difficulty in managing to make these claims if I had not made a study of the Act, perhaps the Editor will allow me to mention that the first official at the Town Hall told me the Register was not there; that in response to an enquiry at the Post Office I was told that they did not know where the Register was to be seen, although further enquiry elicited by chance that a poster on the subject had just come to the Post Office that day. Each constituency can make its own arrangements as to where the Register is to be seen, but I believe that, in most cases, *a list of these places* is posted in the Post Office. It would have been far better if the Registers themselves had been exhibited in every Post Office, and this may have been done in some districts.

The last day for sending in the claims has been postponed from July 17th to July 25th. No one should forget to fill in a claim both as a Parliamentary and as a Local Government elector. Women between twenty-one and thirty should make claims as Local Government electors. It will be necessary later to examine the *list of objection to claims* in case anyone is taking exception to your claim.

Chrystal Macmillan.

LEGISLATION AND THE SOCIAL PROBLEM.

Madam,—I do not think that Mrs. Swanwick and I will add anything to light (though we may to heat) by continuing to misunderstand each other in your columns. I cannot assume, with her, that if people disagree with me on the very difficult problem we have been discussing, it is because they "have not given adequate thought" to it. The names of those on either side forbid (for me) so simple a solution. But I am entirely at one with her in welcoming the resolution passed at the meeting convened by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, to urge the establishment of a Commission to hear and collate the evidence on all sides.

A. Maude Royden.

(*This correspondence must now close.*)

COUNTRY COTTAGES.

Madam,—In your issue of July 5th isn't Lady Selborne a little hard on the landowner? I can't believe that when peace presents him with the housing problem he will bid good-bye to the generous patriotism to which the war has accustomed him and refuse to let his thoughts range beyond his own park-paling. Still less can I believe that when he plans to build upon his own estate he will begin by taking for granted that cows and horses must be stabled on the spot most convenient to himself or his tenant-farmer, and that "their attendants must live near them." Surely he will start with a hearty desire to help save England by doing his share in promoting the health and unstinted development of a fine country population, and surely he has sense enough to understand that this can't be done unless women and children have *their* attendants living near *them*. Doctor, chemist, district nurse, schools, and all such opportunities for mental, moral, and spiritual education as the awakening village can offer, "must" be within easy distance of the new cottages. To the wealthy landowner the building of a whole village may appear a reasonable outlet for his peace-time love of country; he who can afford but one cottage might pool his resources with one or more of his neighbors. (Private telephones would overcome much of the inconvenience to the masters.) As for the cows and horses, a small maternity home and sanatorium near their attendants might meet their requirements, or the stockmen might take it in turn to be on night duty at the abodes of their charges.

Instead of expecting our landowners to build grudgingly, I suggest that we ask them to vie with one another in creating proper homes for English children as the most fitting memorial to childless sons lost in the war, or thank-offerings for sons spared.

Margaret Macnamara.

Madam,—The gist of my article, "Tied Cottages," to points of which Lady Selborne takes exception, in your issue of July 5th, is that "a restatement of values is seen to be necessary, and nowhere is it more required than in country districts where the interests of property still precede those of life." In the Women's Village Councils the hitherto inarticulate village woman is endeavouring to express her vital interest in children and home: naturally, the antithesis of the property point of view of "my coachman" and "my friend's gardener." The amusing general post depicted by Lady Selborne of the housing difficulties of these people, chasing each other from cottage to cottage, has no foundation in my article, in which their names are not mentioned. Landowners, presumably, provide for their own servants. The future may deal rather differently with the gamekeeping interest, but the children of cowmen and carters are a national asset, and it was their sufferings and those of motherhood in the solitary tied cottage, with which my article was chiefly concerned, and I am glad to note that here Lady Selborne is in entire agreement. The State-aided Housing Scheme for rural districts is for free concentrated garden villages. The families of the blacksmiths, wheelwrights, builders, tradesmen, and others now fighting or serving in France are to-day packed into the "free" cottages, which Lady Selborne truly describes as "badly built" and providing "the best examples of early decay." One reads that, owing to acute housing shortage near Sheffield, two returned soldiers, their wives, and two children are using a couple of wooden pigstyes as houses. The statistics and statements of Baby Week and the grim horror which they evoke make it needful to look into the causes of all this loss of life and happiness. I quote from a recent official statement:—

> "The question of housing has been considered by the Central and District Boards, who intend, at a later stage, to issue a schedule prescribing the allowance to be made in respect of houses owned by the employers. At the present moment the allowance in respect of the house is determined by negotiations between the employer and workmen, subject only to the provisions of the Truck Acts."

The last clause is probably the explanation of the insanitary conditions of many of the tied cottages.

F. G. Hamilton
(Joint Hon. Sec., Women's Village Council Federation).

THE POLITICAL POSITION OF WOMEN IN INDIA.

Madam,—I find I was in error in a statement made in my article on this subject in your issue of July 5th, to the effect that the leaders of the movement in India for the grant of a responsible Government were giving no sympathy to the women who were claiming a share in its advantages. The following letter, dated June 1st and just received by me, shows how wrong I was:—

"Dear Mrs. Fawcett,—You will be interested to hear that the question of the political status of women in any future schemes of reform for India is being widely ventilated and discussed in this country, and up to the present has had the following satisfactory results:—

"The Executive Committee of the All-India Congress has requested

its Provincial Committees to discuss the subject of the inclusion of Woman Suffrage in schemes of Indian self-government and report their opinions. The Home Rule League has made a similar request to its branches. The replies received up to date have been unanimously in favour of Indian Woman Suffrage. They have been expressed by the Congress Committees of the Central Provinces and the Punjab, by the Provincial Conferences of the Madras Presidency and the Bombay Presidency (both very large and representative annual assemblies), and by the Malabar District Conference.

"The resolutions of the Committee were:—

"'That this meeting desires that in all schemes of reform and in any extension of the franchise to India, women shall share equally with men and that their sex shall be no disqualification to their exercise of this right.'

"The resolutions at the Conference were:—

"'That this Conference welcomes the requisition sent by some of the ladies of this Province, and agrees to the principle of admitting women to the franchise under suitable conditions.'

"Kindly make these facts known to those who will be influential with those who frame any new measures, so that they may be drawn up in such terms as will clearly include women as well as men.

"I should perhaps state that the bringing into publicity of this matter has been due to the efforts of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Mrs. H. Tata, Mrs. D. Jinarajadasa, and myself, and we find both men and women quite sympathetic to the movement.—Yours, faithfully,

"MARGARET R. COUSINS."
MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

CO-EDUCATION AND NATURE.

MADAM,—In reviewing "A Schoolmaster's Diary" in your current number, Mr. Gould says, "Surely it is 'natural' for the two sexes to mingle freely at all ages." May I point out to him that such a proceeding is, to a large extent, contrary to nature. It is very common in nature for the young of the two sexes, after freely mingling in childhood (nest and mother-care time), to separate for a prolonged period into adolescent groups of males and females respectively, and not to mingle freely again until fully mature and ready for mating.

We are following this natural method when we mix our children in nursery and kindergarten, put them, as boys and girls, into separate schools, and mix them once more, when adult, at the University and elsewhere.

MARY M. ADAMSON, B.Sc.
(Late Head Mistress, G.P.D.S.T.).

Reports, Notices, etc.

THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF WAR AND TOLERATED HOUSES.

On March 13th, 1918, the French Ministry of War issued a circular to the Generals commanding districts. The circular is headed Minister's Cabinet, 4th Bureau, No. 1,936 C, Creation of Tolerated Houses, and runs as follows:—

My attention has been called to the danger caused to the Allied Armies and to the future of the race by the increase of venereal disease.

In the struggle against this serious danger no effective means must be neglected. The study of the question undertaken by my department, in accordance with the sanitary service and the Ministry of the Interior, has shown that the institution of tolerated houses, carefully supervised from the sanitary point of view, accompanied by severe hunting down of free prostitution, was eminently to be desired in all localities where troops are assembled.

Consequently I beg you to address to me, within ten days, with the stamp of this circular, the following information:—

1. Localities in the territory under your command where troops are collected, with their approximate effectives.

2. The number of tolerated houses already in existence, with the number of inmates in each.

You are requested also to determine, in agreement with the civil authorities:—

1. Suitable places for establishing places of this kind. In case such places cannot be found, it would be well to take steps at once for the construction of special buildings.

2. The persons who seem to you suitable for the supervision of these establishments.

These inquiries must not delay your answer to the two inquiries demanded above.

(Signed) Nordaeq, General Chef de Cabinet (for the Minister).

The following is a summary of the protest by the Section for the Equal Moral Standard and the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of the National Council of Women, which protest appeared in *La Francaise* of June 29th:—

The National Council of Women had addressed a strong protest to the Ministry of War and the Ministry of the Interior. They say that, wishing France to be respected, and as mothers, wives, and sisters of soldiers, they protest against the development of licensed houses of prostitution. The existence of the circular, although not published, is an insult to women and the family. From the moral point of view the State regulation of these houses is a monstrous encouragement to debauchery, and from the hygenic point of view a fraud. Women are equally concerned to diminish these diseases, but seek to do so by different methods—viz., by the provision of free treatment in dispensaries to be provided everywhere. Vice will not be made to disappear by organising it. Other countries have diminished disease by more honorable and effective methods than those now contemplated.

This revolting circular brings in the civil authorities, and will be a moral poison in the localities where it is carried out. Luckily, in some places the municipality has indignantly refused to obey, and has left the military authority to carry out its decrees alone. The N.C.W. pro-

It will stand out amongst hundreds!

The "Common Cause" Hut on Salisbury Plain will stand out amongst hundreds of other Y.W.C.A. huts and hostels in England and France as one of the three provided entirely by readers of this paper.

"COMMON CAUSE" HUT No. 1.

This hut is doing a wonderful work at Coventry. It has over 1,000 members and is the largest and best equipped Y.W.C.A. hut ever erected.

"COMMON CAUSE" HUT No. 2.

The largest Y.W.C.A. hut on the Western Front. It is crowded every day and is a perfect boon to the girls in France.

"COMMON CAUSE" HUT No. 3.

Now being erected on Salisbury Plain for the W.A.A.C. girls recently drafted into the district for important war work.

The Building is nearly completed and the Y.W.C.A. War Department hope to open at the end of July.

But we still want £136 before opening day.

Will you help to complete it?

If you could see the happy, expectant faces of the girls as they watch their Hut grow up, you would just long to write your cheque to hurry up the work and get it finished.

THE CARPENTERS ARE BUSY BUT YOUR CHEQUE IS NEEDED NOW

£136 needed to complete the £750 originally asked. Donations should be addressed to The Editor of the "Common Cause," Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W.1.

WOMEN WORKERS & THE FUTURE.—1.

A New Booklet for Women Workers.

Every wage-earning woman knows that she cannot go on working for ever and that she must sooner or later face the problem of providing for her later years when she will wish to retire from active life or be forced to do so because she is no longer able to continue working.

An interesting booklet on this subject, entitled "The Future of Women Workers" has just been issued by the Scottish Widows Fund.

Written especially for women, it clearly shows the value of Mutual Life Assurance to women workers and explains how, by small annual payments out of present earnings, a woman may make provision for her own future, and, if necessary, for that of her dependents.

Secure a copy NOW and give it careful perusal! Sent free on request.

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tests most energetically against the immoral measures advocated in the circular.

(Signed by) Julie Siegfried, President of the National Council of Women, and by Marguerite de Witt Schlumberger.

The French Women Suffrage Union protests.

The Executive of the Women Suffrage Union has addressed a protest to the Ministries of War and the Interior.

It protests "with the deepest indignation and the utmost energy against this circular and against the organisation of vice by the State administration."

The Union views with great concern the spread of venereal disease due largely to the war, and urges the establishment of free dispensaries everywhere. State regulation of vice is a revolting immorality sanctioning vice; it is also a trap from the hygenic point of view.

The circular is an invitation to the moral poisoning of the population, and the Union calls upon the Ministries to recall the circular.

(Signed) The Sec., C. L. Bruschvig.

THE UNIVERSITY FRANCHISE.

A most interesting and informative address was given on the University Franchise on July 12th by the External Registrar of London University, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, herself a Doctor of Science of that University, being in the chair. The audience, although not numerous, was very representative. The Registrar's address brought out several facts very clearly. The compilation of the register is a task of immense difficulty; this arises partly from University regulations framed in other days for other purposes—*e.g.*, that a graduate's address is her address at time of graduation until she formally notifies a removal, and her name is her maiden name until she notifies her marriage. The Registrar suggested that proxy forms should be obtained and filled in in good time by those graduates who were on war service; that graduates should stir up other graduates to *claim* their votes (a post card to either London University or the Secretary of the National Women Citizens' Associations, at Grosvenor Mansions, 82, Victoria Street, S.W.1, will bring a claim form); that graduates should *register* in as many Universities as they have degrees, although they may not vote in all; that the fee charged must be regarded as a payment for onerous services rendered by the Universities, and not as a superfluous tax; and, finally, that any step producing greater cohesion among London women graduates would be a godsend. Some discussion followed as to the possibility of forming a Women Citizens' Association for London graduates, and sympathy was expressed with the idea. However, in view of the imminence of vacation, it was decided to defer any meeting on that subject for the present. A very hearty vote to the Registrar terminated the proceedings.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries: Miss Margaret Jones. Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Parliamentary). Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Alys Russell.

Secretaries: Miss Evans, Mrs. Hubback (Information and Parliamentary).

Offices—Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.

Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, Ox, London. Telephone—Museum 2668.

Headquarter Notes.

Treasurer's Report.

All this important work requires money, and cannot possibly be carried on much longer unless our finance is put on a sound footing by a very large number of permanent subscribers. We have secured over 150 new ones, but must have at least *one thousand* new subscribers at once. Will you be one?

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Already acknowledged ...	181	19	9
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Miss C. M. Glubb ...	1	0	0
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Miss C. Spicer ...	1	1	0
Miss Spens ...		5	0
Lady Courtney of Penwith ...	3	0	0
Miss Helen Fraser ...	2	0	0
Miss Bertha Dunnell ...	1	1	0
Miss A. R. Vincent ...		10	6
Miss L. M. Howell ...	1	0	0
Miss Kilgour ...		5	0
Mrs. C. G. Montefiore ...	2	2	0
Miss Manley Smith ...		10	0
Miss Rosita Lietti ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Harold Brown ...		10	6
Mrs. Best ...		5	0
The Misses Hooton ...		4	0
Mrs. Mary L. Irwin ...		5	0
Mrs. A. M. Overton ...	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Chapman ...	2	2	0
Miss C. M. Glubb ...		5	0
Mr. R. Stevenson ...	2	2	0
Worthing W.S.S. ...	1	1	0
Mrs Gilbert Vane ...	1	0	0
	£220	0	3

THIRD "COMMON CAUSE" HUT.

Madam,—On Tuesday, July 30th, the third Hut that has been presented to us by readers of The Common Cause will be opened on Salisbury Plain. I had very much hoped that Mrs. Fawcett would have been able to perform the opening ceremony, and that I might, in the name

of the Y.W.C.A., thank all readers of THE COMMON CAUSE and our suffrage friends who have so generously contributed to the three beautiful Huts that have been given to the Y.W.C.A. for our war work; unfortunately, press of engagements make it impossible for both Mrs. Fawcett and myself to be present.

The first Hut, which was opened at Coventry, has been a boon to thousands of munition girls. The second Hut, in France—a splendid one—has not only given a feeling of home to many in Queen Mary's W.A.A.C., but stands, like the Coventry one, as a symbol of the thought and care that suffragists have ever had for women workers. Now we are opening the third one. This is, in a somewhat isolated spot, as real a comfort as the other two have already proved themselves to be.

For this triangle of Blue Triangle Huts, given to the National Y.W.C.A. by suffragists throughout the country I tender warmest thanks in the name of the whole Association, and with them I include my own personal gratitude to those whose cause I have always had at heart and whom I have ever regarded as comrades.

E. PICTON-TURBERVILL
(National Vice-President, Y.W.C.A.).

Third "Common Cause" Hut.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	609	11	0
Mrs. Montefiore (further donation)	1	1	0
Mrs. Harold Brown		10	6
Miss L. Mitchell	5	0	0
Mrs. Tabor	1	0	0
Miss Alice Hope Wallace ...		5	0
Mrs. James Cursiter		2	6
	£617	10	0

Reports from Societies.

LEEDS.

On Thursday, July 11th, a drawing room meeting was held at the residence of Mr and Mrs. Nayler, under the auspices of the Leeds Society for Women's Suffrage. Professor Armitage presided, and Miss Trew (hon. sec. Leeds W.S.S.), Miss Hartop, Mr. Beaumont Molier (stipendiary magistrate for Bradford), and Councillor J. R. Cross were the speakers. At the close of the meeting a number of new members were enrolled. It is hoped to arrange a meeting in the neighbouring township of Horsforth, when a local branch, including Horsforth and Rawdon, will be formed. Copies of THE COMMON CAUSE and the Union's literature found a ready sale, and the meeting was an indication of the newly-aroused interest in the work of the N.U.W.S.S. in the West Riding.

LIVERPOOL.

A meeting of members of the Liverpool Society was held on July 9th at the Yamen Rooms, Bold Street, when a presentation was made to Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.A., C.C. Mrs. Egerton Stewart-Brown presided, and the presentation was made by Mrs. Alfred Booth on behalf of the subscribers. Mrs. E. Stewart-Brown referred to the pioneer work accomplished by Miss Eleanor Rathbone, not solely to obtain female suffrage, but in every cause that made for the welfare and betterment of woman's condition, whatever her rank or position. Mrs. Pares (hon. secretary) read a letter of apology from Mrs. Henry Fawcett, who regretted her inability to be present. The gift consisted of an artistic silver casket containing a cheque for 200 guineas and a scroll with an impressive inscription.

HITCHIN, STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT.

On Wednesday, July 10th, a meeting was held in the Welcome Club, Payne's Park, Hitchin, to consider the formation of a Women's Citizen Association in Hitchin. The meeting was well attended. Mrs. Knight, wife of the Bishop of Gibraltar, a Hitchin resident, was in the chair, the speaker being Mrs. Wathen, of Welwyn. Mrs. Knight, in her opening address, explained why it was not possible for the Suffrage Society to disband, as its object, which is to obtain the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as men, was not yet attained. At the same time, she said now that upwards of six million women were enfranchised it became urgently necessary that we should educate ourselves on public questions, both local and Imperial. Mrs. Wathen then spoke, explaining the functions of a W.C.A. Discussion followed, and then a resolution was moved from the chair that a W.C.A. be formed for Hitchin. This was seconded by Mrs. Ashby, wife of the vicar of Hitchin, and carried nem. con. Representatives of the various Women's Associations were present.

LONDON UNITS SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS SUMMER MEETINGS: PAST AND FUTURE.

On June 29th Miss May Curwen spoke at a garden meeting at Maidenhead, arranged by the Hon. Mrs. Edward Stopford, to rouse local interest in the work of the London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. The promises of donations made at the close of the afternoon were very numerous. The Maida Vale and Paddington High School makes three collections a term for the London Units, and the girls were addressed for the first time by Miss May Curwen on July 9th. She found them a most responsive audience. Miss Vera Holme is following her Scottish tour by a series of lantern lectures in and around London, organised by the local Suffrage Societies. On July 12th she spoke at Haslemere, on July 13th at Purley. On July 16th she will be at Croydon, at Gerrard's Cross on July 17th. There is to be a public meeting at Berkhamsted on Friday, July 19th, at 5.30, at which Miss May Curwen and Miss Holme will speak, and another on Saturday, July 20th, at three o'clock, in the Great Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

Garrould's

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Subscriptions are still urgently needed, much new work being undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or to Miss Gosse, Joint Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to June 20th, 1918	327,913	4	11
Further donations received to June 30th, 1918:—			
*Miss Isabella Steele	5	0	0
*Mrs. Tiffany, of New York (May and June donations)	10	6	10
Miss Isobel M. Lillie	2	0	0
*H. Lightbody, Esq.	1	1	0
J. H. M.	2	0	0
*Mrs. Reid	2	0	0
Joseph Ramsay, Esq.		10	0
*Per Miss Erskine, further donation for the "Churchill" Bed (Royaumont)	3	0	0
Mrs. Murdoch	1	0	0
*Pupils, Ardgowan School, Greenock, per Jas. Hutchison, Esq., Headmaster, for upkeep of School Bed (Corsica)	3	0	0
*High School for Girls, Barnsley, per Miss I. B. Pyper, Headmistress, Entertainment Tax refunded	2	13	8
*Employees, Messrs. Poynter, Son & MacDonalds. Chemical Works, Greenock	8	10	0
		10	0
Anonymous			
*Gourock W.S.S., per Mrs. Clatworthy, Hon. Treas., to endow three Gourock Beds (Sallanches): "Gourock Central Higher Grade School" Bed, "Gourock Eastern School" Bed, "Gourock St. Ninian's School" Bed	150	0	0
*"Ellon Parish Church Women's Guild," per Rev. Wm. Y. Colquhoun, per Mrs Alex. Cantlay, Sec.	10	0	0
*"George Square Former Pupils' Club," per Miss A. D. Ballingall, Treas. ...	2	0	
*Collected by Miss Lucy Souter and Miss Frances Jean Simpson, for "January Bairns' Birthday" Bed (Royaumont): Johnnie Peacock, B., Jan., 1918 (£1 1s.), Miss Isobella Jack, U.S.A. (2s.), Mrs. Forrest (3s.), Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. Findlay, Mrs. Peacock (2s. 6d. each), Mrs. Kirkby, Miss I. F. Brown (2s. each), Mrs. Munro (1s. 6d.), Mr. Weir, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Mackintosh, A Friend, Miss J. Gray (1s. each)	2	10	0
Dr. Reid	1	0	0
*Per Miss Geraldine Cooke: Proceeds Exhibition of Serbian Pictures (£38 16s. 10d.) Mr. Kennedy Fraser (£13 13s.). *Flag Day* in Kemback, per Miss Janet Low, Cupar-Fife (£8 0s. 6d.), Post Cards (£2 10s. 9d.), War & Peace (£1 8s.), Photographs (Presentation) (£1 1s. 1d.) ...	65	10	2
*Further Subscriptions from Australia, per Mrs. Abbott, per the Secretary, Bank of New South Wales, London (£3,750), Per the Manager, The Commercial Barking Co. of Sydney Ltd., London (£3,750)	7,500	0	0
*Falkirk W.S.S., per Mrs. Moir Sadler, Hon. Treas., Dramatic Recital by Mr. Stewart, including £15 given by the Falkirk Iron Co., to cover expenses (£45), *Falkirk Iron Co. (two donations) (£22 10s.), Lecture by Miss Vera Holme (Sallanches) (£1 2s. 3d.), Lecture by Miss Margt. Crowe (Nurse) (Sallanches) (19s. 4d.) ...	69	11	7
Miss Barbara Pym	1	1	0
Mrs. Wilson	1	0	0
*Miss I. Wedderburn	1	0	0
*Messrs. John Paton, Son & Co. Ltd., Kilncraigs Factory, Alloa, per J. M. Reid, Esq., Sec.	150	0	0
Entertainment by Physical Culture Students, The Technical School, Clydebank, per Duncan P. Gilmour, Esq. ...	73	6	0
*Per Mrs. Caleb, of Lahore, India	3	5	0
*Kingsfield College, Dartford, per Miss M. Hulbard, Hon. Sec., to College Fund—Result of Entertainment—for upkeep of the "M. B. O." and "Kingsfield" Beds (Royaumont)	60	0	0
*James Tennant, Esq.	1	0	0
*Newnham House School, Ayr, per Miss Zera L. L. Miller—Result of Entertainment given by Girls of the School—to name a "Newnham House School, Ayr," Bed ...	50	0	0
*Anonymous, per Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treas., S.W.H., Greenock	1	7	0
Miss J. L. Ferrier (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
*Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser, S.W.H., Greenock: Greenock Penny-a-Week Fund, Ambulance for Serbs (already acknowledged for Ambulance, £303 12s. 10d.), 59th-62nd Penny Collection (£39 10s. 1d.), (*Less* Messrs. Black & Co., already acknowledged, £2) (£37 10s. 1d.), *Staff and Pupils, Shaw Street School, Greenock, for upkeep of School Bed (Corsica), per Wm. McWhirter, Esq., Headmaster (£15), *Messrs. Hally & Co., Auchterarder, upkeep of "Hally & Co., Auchterarder" Bed—Sale of Paper Tubes—(Sallanches) (£6 2s. 8d.), *Staff & Workmen, Messrs. Wm Hamilton & Co., Port-Glasgow, upkeep of "Glen Shipbuilding Yard" Bed (Sallanches) 52nd-55th donations (£5 13s. 7d.), *Teachers and Pupils, School for the Deaf, Greenock, upkeep of School Bed (Corsica), per Miss Whyte, Headmistress (£1 10s.)	65	16	4
Anonymous		10	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Messrs. Boyd & Forrest	2	7	0
*Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundella, Hon. Treas. (May Collections)	8	10	6
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: *Staff & Employees, Messrs. Brown Bros., Rosebank Ironworks, Edinburgh, per Miss Buchan (£19 9s. 5d.), *Employees, Messrs. MacKenzie & Moncur, Balcarres Street Edinburgh, per Mr. J. Sloan (£7 13s. 9d.), *Leith Domestic Servants' Association, per Miss Young (£7 13s. 6d.), *Employees, Messrs. Duncan Flockhart & Co. (12th subscription), per Thomas Sime, Esq. (£5), *Messrs. Bertram Ltd., St. Katherine's Works, Edinburgh, per Wm. Bell, Esq.: Staff Benevolent Fund (£2 2s.), Works Benevolent Fund (£2) (£4 2s.), Employees, Messrs. William Todd, Springhill Paper Mills, Polton, Midlothian, per W. Isles, Esq. (£3 16s. 6d.), Employees, Carmuir Iron Works, Falkirk, per R. Barr, Esq. (£3 4s.), *Women Clerks' Acct. Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per Miss Sutherland (£3), *Employees, Messrs. MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Station Iron Works, Loanhead, per J. Laurie, Esq. (£1 18s. 1d.), *Employees, Messrs. J. Munro & Co., Edinburgh, per Miss J. Pullar (£1 11s. 9d.), Collected from the N.C.O.'s and Men of the Royal Marine Labour Company, as the result of appeal made by Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, per R. D. Hale, Esq., Lieut. R.M., O.C. R.M.L.C., Grangemouth (£1 2s.), Firm of Messrs. Macpherson & Maclaren, Sawmills, Grangemouth (£1), *Workers, No. 4 Hoist Coaltrimmers, per J. Munro, Esq. (15s.)	60	5	0
*Glasgow & West of Scotland W.S.S. Joint Committee, per Miss M. C. Morrison, Hon. Treas. (Jane donations): *Paisley Fund: Collected in Paisley, per Miss Paterson: The Misses Greenlees, Corryville (£10), John Greenlees, Esq., Netherton (£10), Miss MacKean, Inverkar (£10), Mrs. Paterson, Speirsfield (£10), Miss Paterson, Speirsfield (£10), Miss Rowat, St Margaret's (£10), Mrs. Greenlees, Newark (£5), Mrs. Hamilton, Blacklands (£5), Mrs. MacCallum, Claremont (£5), Mrs. Drummond, Fairfield (£3), Miss Greenlees, Netherton (£3), Per Mrs. Wallace: Mrs. Allison, Rosemount (£3), Mrs. Jack, Auchinane (£1) (£85), Paisley Women's Suffrage Society and Friends, per Miss Todd, for upkeep of 8th bed for 6 months (£25)	110	0	0
*Robert Clark, Esq., Messrs. Clark & Service	100	0	0
*Shettleston Flag Day, per Mrs. Wilson	52	1	6
*Airdrie Entertainment per H. Manners, Esq.	40	6	6
*Islay Flag Day, per Mrs. Ross	37	15	7
*Flag Day in Annan, per Mrs. Muray, Ecclefechan	35	0	0
*For upkeep of "Kinlochleven" Bed: The Kinlochleven Cinema, per Miss Beveridge (£15), Collection taken at Miss Vera Holme's Meeting, per Miss Beveridge (£6 0s. 11d.), Girls at Hostel in Kinlochleven, per Miss Simpson (£4 10s.)	25	10	11
*Pupils & Staff of Laurel Bank School, for upkeep of bed for 6 months, per Miss Thomson	25	0	0
*Queen Margaret College Students' Union Association, per Miss Robertson, for upkeep of "Queen Margaret College Students' Union Association" Bed for 6 months	25	0	0
*Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science, per Miss Melvin, for upkeep of Bed for 6 months	25	0	0
*R. Graham, Esq., Kirn, to name "Sec.-Lieut. Walter Riddell, R.S.F." Bed, in France, per Mrs. Graham, Mid. and Upper Cowal Committee	25	0	0
*North Cowal Committee, further proceeds from Jumble Sale, per Miss Mackay ...	19	0	0
*Arrochar Parish Flag Day, per Miss J. Telfer Tarbet ...	1	2	6
*"F. M. R."	11	5	0
*Miss Fraser	5	5	0
*Miss Clara Blackie	5	0	0
Mrs. Anderson	5	0	0
*Dunaskin Flag Day, per Miss Mustard	4	18	0
Collection taken at Miss Vera Holme's Meeting in Connel Ferry, per the Rev. C. D. MacIntosh	4	13	4
*Airdrie Academy, Monthly Contribution, per Miss Paterson, towards upkeep of Bed	4	6	0
*Miss Reid, for General Funds (£3 3s.), Miss Reid, for Dr. Elsie Inglis Unit, Serbia (£1 1s.)	4	4	0
*Dundrennan Flag Day, per Jas. Scott, Esq.	3	16	0
*Miss Agnes Young	3	0	0
*Mrs. Pryor	3	0	0
*Condorrat Flag Day, per Mrs. Thomson	2	19	3
*Ayr W.S.S., per Mrs. Alexander	1	11	6
*Mrs. W. J. Alexander Bearsden	1	0	0
The Misses Herriot	1	0	0
*Mrs. Mitchell, Airdrie, Old Gold and Silver Collection		17	6
*Mrs. Toms		10	0
*Miss Murray		10	0
*A Member of Stepps W.L.A., per Mrs. Jack		8	0
D. MacLelland, Esq., Girvan		2	0
Workmen's Scheme:			
*Employees, Messrs. Morrison & Mason Ltd.	37	3	0
Messrs. The North British Locomotive Co. Ltd., per R. Winchester, Esq.	25	0	0
*Employees, Messrs. Wyllie, Barr & Ross	13	19	9
*Messrs. Paisley's Ltd.	10	0	0
*Employees, Messrs. Wm. Simons & Co. Ltd.	9	12	0
*Engine Dept. Finishers, The Boiler Dept., and Clerical (General Office) Staff of Fairfield Works, per G. Mac Lean, Esq.	6	15	0
*Trongate Yards and Fitzroy Work Employees, Messrs. P. & W. MacLellan, Ltd. ...	4	0	10
*Messrs. A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd. (£2 2s.), Employees, Messrs. A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd. (£1 1s.)	3	3	0
*Employees, Messrs. Wm. Martin, Sons & Co., Coatbridge	2	2	0
*Employees, Messrs. Cassel Cyanide Co. Ltd.	2	0	0
Anonymous	25	0	0
*Sir R. Roward Anderson (Monthly donation)	2	0	0
The Misses Smith		2	6
Alex. Thomson, Esq., per Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treas. S.W.H.	1	0	0
*Scarborough W.S.S., per Miss G. Rowantree, for upkeep of "Scarborough" Bed (Salonica)	25	0	0
*Mrs. Hugh Rose	5	0	0
*Miss Gold	1	0	0
J. H. & J. M. T.	7	0	0
The Misses Young		2	0
*Pupils and Staff, Linlithgow Academy, per Jas. Beveridge, Esq., for upkeep of "Linlithgow Academy" Bed (Royaumont)	50	0	0
Anonymous		2	6
*Gateshead W.S.S., per Mrs. J. T. Dunn, Hon. Sec. (£2 12s. 6d.), Private donations (£1 1s.) (2 months) ...	3	13	6
Messrs. Walker, Sons & Co. Ltd., Auckland House, 36, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.	10	0	0
*"The Wellington Evening Post" Collection, per the Sec., New Zealand Government Offices, Strand, London, W.C. 2 (America Unit)	10	0	0
*Birmingham Burns Club, per Robt. MacKenzie, Esq., Hon. Treas.—Balance of proceeds of Flag Day held on April 13th — (already received, £1,500) (Sallanches)	152	19	0
*Miss I. C. B. Young, per Messrs. L. & J. MacLaren, W.S., 23, Rutland Street, Edinburgh	2	0	0
*Mrs. Harvey, for upkeep of "A. Harvey, Belhelvie," Bed (Salonica)	25	0	0
*Alex. Cupples (Monthly donation)	2	0	0
Scotstoun Parish Church Women's Guild, Luss, per Miss Alison Wilson, Sec. ...	1	0	0
*Domestic Staff, St. Mary's School, Melrose (Monthly donation) (10s.), Miss Hamilton (Private donation) (11s.)	1	1	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: Students' Episcopal Training College, Dalry House, Orwell Place, Edinburgh, per Principal Boyd (£6 8s. 3d.), *Workmen's Scheme:* *Messrs. Nobels' Explosive Company, Ltd., per D. Currie, Works Manager (£25), *West Quarter Factory Charities Fund, Employees, Messrs. Nobels' Co. Ltd., per Jas. M. Anderson, Esq. (£25), for upkeep of "West Quarter Factory, Polmont," Bed (America Unit) (£50), Firm, Messrs. Jas. Ross & Co., Lime Wharf Chemical Works, Falkirk (£10), Employees, Messrs. Abots' Ironworks, Falkirk, per Mr. H. Smith (£3), Collected in Naval Barracks, Grangemouth, per Lieut. Auchterloney, R.N. Barracks, Grangemouth (£2 18s. 10d.), Collected from Employees, Messrs. Cowan, Strachan & Given, Castle Street, Edinburgh (8s. 4d.), *Collected from Employees, Messrs. Patrict Thomas & Co., North Bridge, Edinburgh (7s. 7d.), Sale of Post Cards, Co-Operative Women's Guild, per Mrs. May (6s.)	73	9	0
*Workers, Bridgeness & Grange Collieries, Bo'ness, per Geo. Burr, Esq., Sec. (191st cont.)	7	14	6
*Miss Jessie Goodrich	0	5	0
*East Midland Federation W.S.S., per Miss Dowson, Hon. Sec., for upkeep of "East Midland Federation" Bed (Royaumont)	4	10	0
*Kirk Session South Leith Parish Church, per Jas. Thorburn, Esq., Session Clerk, Leith (Serbia)	8	0	0
Miss C. Y. Ross		10	0
*Edinburgh Ladies' College War Funds, per D. C. McIntosh, Esq., Hon. Treas., for upkeep of "Edinburgh Ladies' College Former Pupils' French Club" Bed (Royaumont)	25	0	0
Scottish Women's Rural Institutes Voluntary Funds Committee, per Mrs. Blair, President and Hon. Organiser—Drawings at a Cheese Making Demonstration and at a Jumble Sale addressed by Mrs. Shaw MsLaren, including following subscriptions: Anonymous (£3), Mr. and Mrs. D. Bone (£2), Mrs. Black, Miss Jackson, Mrs. Welsh, Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. Gemmill, Mrs. Gibson (£1 each), Mr. Sturriff (10s. 6d.), Mrs. Geo. Riddell, Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. M. Park, Mrs. Henderson, Mr. Jackson, Mrs. MacKenzie, for the upkeep of the "Mak' Merry" Beds (Royaumont and Salonica)	68	10	0
Miss S. Morrison		10	0
Per Miss Geraldine Cooke: Repayment Entertainment Tax, Rachi Exhibition (£10 9s. 9d.), War and Peace (£2 9s.), Post Cards (9s. 6d.), Anonymous, Salonica (2s. 6d.)	13	10	9
	£337,477	17	9

*Denotes further donations.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Names of Beds	*Donors.*
"Gourock Central Higher Grade School" (Sallanches, 1 year)	Gourock W.S.S., per Mrs. Clatworthy, Hon. Treas.
"Gourock Eastern School" (Sallanches, 1 year)	Gourock W.S.S., per Mrs. Clatworthy, Hon. Treas.
"Gourock St. Ninian's School" (Sallanches, 1 year)	Gourock W.S.S., per Mrs. Clatworthy, Hon. Treas.
"M. B. O." (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Per Miss M. Hulbard, Hon. Sec., Kingsfield College Fund

Reports from Societies.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT FEDERATION.—In preparation for the Public Conference on this subject, which is to be held on September 25th, a small informal discussion, to ventilate the matter locally, was arranged on June 26th, in a committee-room of the Milton Hall. Mrs. Thoday and Mrs. Annot Robinson were the principal speakers.

Mrs. Thoday briefly outlined the chief proposals put forward by the Endowment of Motherhood **Committee in London,** and spoke strongly in favour of the adoption of the scheme.

Mrs. Robinson put in a strong plea for the widowed, deserted, and unmarried mothers, whose peculiarly hard cases she felt should be the first charge on the nation.

There was an encouraging attendance, and at the close an interesting discussion took place and many questions were answered.

ECCLES.—A drawing-room meeting was held by the kindness and hospitality of Mrs. Williams, of Pendleton, on June 14th. Mrs. Errock spoke on the "Present Urgent Need for a Suffrage Society." She explained the programme adopted by the N.U. Council, and the special portions of it which the Federation and the Manchester Society had selected for immediate work. She spoke of the further decision of the N.U. to co-operate with other women's organisations in the formation of Women Citizens' Associations, and explained the functions of these bodies as distinct from those of the suffrage societies.

At the close of her address it was agreed to revive this lapsed Society.

A Committee was elected from those present. Mrs. Goulden kindly consented to accept the office of President, and various names were suggested for the offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

BARNETT HOUSE CONFERENCE.—Under the auspices of Barnett House (the Oxford centre for the study of social questions), Sir Henry Hadow lectured on "The Needs of Popular Musical Education" on June 27th. He said that, firstly, we had to rid our minds of the notion that music was something apart from our intellectual life: we must remodel our conceptions of literature and history so as to bring music into proper relation with other subjects. Secondly, music should be taught differently in schools: it must not be placed in the position of an "extra," nor supposed to consist mainly in the teaching of reluctant individuals to play the piano badly. Musical dictation was vital in the beginning, and we should be able to read a page of Beethoven as easily as a page of French. Thirdly, music should be more a part of the concrete life of the school. There should be daily class-singing, and children should begin with music of transparent structure, broad melody, and effective rhythm.

NEWPORT, MON.—An interesting little ceremony took place at Newport Station on Saturday, July 6th, when Mrs. Fawcett passed through on her way home from Cardiff. She was met at the train by the Committee of the Society, whose Chairman, Miss Vivian, B.A., Headmistress of the Girls' Intermediate School, presented her with a charming basket of roses, culled from the garden of one of the members.

WEST RIDING FEDERATION.—The annual meeting was held on Saturday, June 22nd, at Ecclesall Grange, Sheffield. Mrs. Oliver Strachey was the speaker, and a large gathering listened with much interest to her explanation of what the N.U. stands for to-day. An American Sale realised £15 for Headquarters funds. The following officers were elected: Hon. President, Mrs. Fisher; Hon. Treasurer, Miss Beaumont; Hon. Secretary, Lady Lawson Tancred. The thanks of the Federation are due to Mrs. Fisher, who so kindly invited us to meet at Ecclesall Grange.

BOURNEMOUTH.—A most successful meeting, under the chairmanship of the Rev. A. Johnson, was held in the garden, kindly lent by Mrs. Templeton, at 24, St. Winifred's-road, on July 6th, when a large gathering of members and friends listened to a very interesting and instructive address by the Lady Frances Balfour, President of the local branch, on the duty of women voters to exercise care and judgment in the use of their votes; and of the necessity for women to study the great questions of the day, in their bearing, not only on the war, but also on all matters affecting the nation and the Empire.

On the motion of **Mrs. Hamilton Grant,** unanimously agreed to, the Hon. Secretary was directed to write a letter of condolence to Lady Rhondda.

NOTTINGHAM.—A well-attended meeting of the Society was held on July 10th, in order to decide the future of the local branch. Mrs. Corbett-Ashby gave a very helpful and encouraging address, and Mrs. Dowson Senior, a worker since the early days of 1870, proposed from the chair that a message of congratulation and affectionate regard be sent to Mrs. Fawcett. This was enthusiastically carried, and it was subsequently unanimously decided to carry on the local work, and, at the same time, give all possible help to the newly-formed Women Citizen League and the special war enterprises already undertaken, and for which members have made themselves responsible. New members were enrolled, and many COMMON CAUSES sold, also copies of Mrs. Martindale's speech on the "Maisons Tolerées in France."

NORWICH.—On June 25th, Miss Edith Willis spoke to members of "The Friends" Adult School and Mothers' Meeting on "Women's New Responsibilities." An outline was given of the reforms won by women in countries in which they have been enfranchised as illustrating the direction in which the vote is likely to be put in England. The discussion which followed showed the deep interest women feel in all that makes for the betterment of life—moral and physical. The speaker was given a standing invitation to come again whenever a General Election was on to advise as to the best use to make of the vote—an invitation for which many an M.P. would be grateful!

ORRELL AND DISTRICT WOMEN CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION.—A meeting was held at June 20th. Miss Veitch, B.A., of Liverpool gave an address on "Welfare Work." The women were very much interested in her account of women's work in a large factory in Liverpool, and she was cordially thanked for her visit. The attendance is still very good, about 40 being present, and new members being enrolled at each meeting. The next meeting will be on July 18th, when Mrs. Billinge, of Liverpool, organiser of the Anti-Sweating League, will give an address on "Women's Work and Wages."

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S).

JULY 22.

Islington—Camden Road Baptist Chapel—Women's Meeting—Speaker: Miss Relf—Subject: "The Duties of Citizenship" 3.30 p.m.

Norwood—Railton Road United Methodist Women's Meeting, Herne Hill—Speaker: Miss Margaret Jones—Subject: "Women's New Responsibilities" 5 p.m.

Redditch—Temperance Hall—"Women and Citizenship"—Speakers: Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Mrs. Cooper—Chairman: Mrs. Hugh Dixon 8 p.m.

JULY 27.

Leeds—Oliver Hill Hospital Garden Meeting—By the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont—Music 6.30 p.m.

Items of Interest.

In the City Temple, at morning service on Sunday, June 9th, 1918, Dr. Fort Newton said: "Let me call attention if I may to the series of sermons which my gracious colleague is preaching here, beginning this evening, on Moral Problems. She is dealing with them in that forthright manner with which she knows so well how to confront those problems, in the midst of which she lives and labours, with the fine insight and spirituality of a truly great woman. She can deal with questions that I cannot deal with at all. Some weeks ago she talked here of the "tolerated houses" in France, and but for her voice the whole Christian Church was dumb concerning that matter. It was difficult for her to do, but she did it magnificently. She has a noble ministry, she has justified the advent of women in the pulpit, bringing her insight and her peculiar genius to the service of our religious and moral and social life. The time will come when Maude Royden will have her name alongside Florence Nightingale, sweet Margaret MacDonald, and other great women of England."

At the Annual Congress of the Women's Co-operative Guild a resolution was passed in support of the scheme for Mothers' Pensions now in operation in U.S.A., and advocating Universal Endowment of Motherhood.

The Register of Voters, Parliamentary and Municipal, for the County of the City of Glasgow has been open for scrutiny at this office, and has been, and is, of use to a very considerable body of voters. Of the 500,385 Parliamentary electors, 188,833 are women—roughly, one-third.

The National Women Citizens Associations' Central Committee is now forming a Women Citizens' Association for London University graduates, where University and educational questions may be dealt with on their political side in a non-party way. Intending members are asked to send in their names to the Secretary, N.W.C.A., Miss H. Normanton, B.A., Grosvenor-mansions, 82, Victoria-street, London, S.W. 1, or names can be handed in at the meeting on July 12th.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN CLERKS AND SECRETARIES (Registered Trade Union Number 1632T). Hon. Secretary: Miss A. L. Lawrence, M.B.E. Secretary: Miss Dorothy Evans, M.A.—12, Buckingham-street, W.C. 2.

UNDER the Auspices of The International New Thought Alliance, British Headquarters, The Higher Thought Centre, 39, Maddox-street, W. 1.—LECTURE by Mrs. Lucy Re-Bartlett (author of "The Coming Order"), at Grafton Galleries, Sunday Morning, July 21st, at 11.30, "The Woman of To-morrow in Religion."—Open to all interested.

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Continued from page 183.

RECONSTRUCTION Problems and Women's Work.—Lady desires others to join weekly debates under able guidance. Opportunity for prospective speakers.—Box 7,770 COMMON CAUSE Office.

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